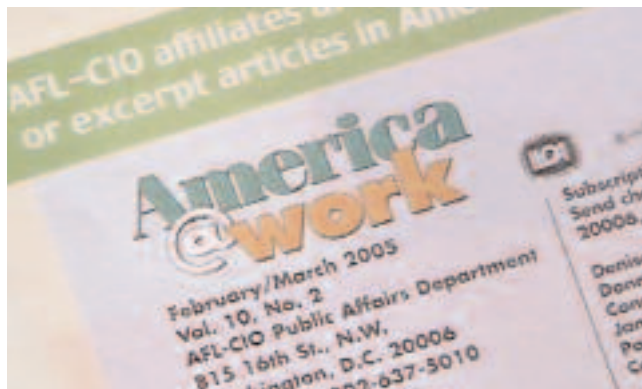


## Vote YES on S. E. Labor Council's labor media resolution at July AFL-CIO Convention!



### AFL-CIO spikes America@work

By Larry Duncan, editor UPPNET News

The official publication of the AFL-CIO, *America@work*, which was “designed to inspire and support front-line union leaders and activists” has had its plug pulled. Now, the AFL-CIO has no national media organ, print or otherwise. Whatever happens after the July Convention in Chicago, a labor media strategy involving some national publication, radio show or tv channel is essential.

I don't know of any epitaph for *America@work* provided by the AFL-CIO, but in lieu of that, here's an article by Harry Kelber, written in January, on the eve of the publication's demise. It may offer some insights into why *America@work* died so suddenly and was thrown into an unmarked grave. The Kelber article is on [page 2](#).

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### The San Francisco Labor Council resolution for a labor media strategy for AFL-CIO

June 13, 2005—Meeting of San Francisco Labor Council

Whereas, the anti-labor corporate propaganda blitz against working people by the major media is a danger to both the survival of organized labor and,

Whereas, the deregulation of the media has led to censorship and the control of the media by robber barons who are intent on not only silencing the voices of working people but supporting the corporate policies of privatization, deregulation, and eliminating all labor and human rights and,

Whereas the need to have regular labor education on history, health and safety, immigrant rights and all the issues facing working people is vital,

Therefore be it resolved that this council supports the call for an 24 hour Labor radio and TV channel that would include programming from all internationals and would provide labor and working class programming and,

This council also supports the development of labor media internet portals of all labor programming and links to all labor struggles in regional areas and,

This council supports the development of a labor media movement that will include the training of rank-and-file members in the use of labor video and radio both on community access television and on the web and supports and the Workers Independent News (WIN) service that is now broadcast on stations throughout the country and, this council will support the establishment of regional labor media centers that will provide such training and,

Finally this council will submit this resolution to the AFL-CIO convention and all affiliated bodies for action.

*For more information on Workers Independent News (mentioned in the resolution) go to the article on [page 3](#).*

**If you are interested in supporting this resolution at the July AFL-CIO Convention, contact UPPNET President, Howard Kling, [hkling@csom.umn.edu](mailto:hkling@csom.umn.edu), or Carl Bryant, [carltv214@aol.com](mailto:carltv214@aol.com).**

## **America@work: In lieu of an epitaph**

# **Why won't America@work carry reports of unions' debate about labor's future?**

By Harry Kelber, ILCA Associate Member

January 05, 2005—If you want to know what's happening in the labor movement, you won't find out much by reading *America@work*, the AFL-CIO's monthly magazine [now defunct —Ed.].

Your best bet for important labor news is *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times* and *Business Week*, none of them particularly friendly to unions.

In its January 2005 issue, *America@work* uses its entire back page to ask union members to “help strengthen our union movement for the future.” It states that “the AFL-CIO is leading a detailed examination of what we must do to build strength for the future.”

Yet nowhere in the 24-page magazine is there any information about the 10-point program to revitalize the AFL-CIO that the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) has been publicizing widely in the commercial media. Why is there not even a mention of SEIU's “Unite to Win”?

Thoughtful proposals for strengthening the labor movement have come from the Communication Workers of America, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and a group of leaders representing 12 central labor councils. They each offer important recommendations that union members are entitled to be informed about. Why haven't they been reported in the magazine?

It's not for lack of space. The editors devote nine full pages to print comments from union members that we need good jobs, health care, social security, paid overtime and labor law reform. That's hardly hot news. It's what the AFL-CIO was repeating month after month during the election campaign. Is that the best use that the editors can make of nine blank pages?

*America@work* boasts on the cover page that it is a source for “Ideas, Info and Ammo for AFL-CIO Leaders and Activists.” I'd like to hear what seminal ideas the editors have contributed to the labor movement. What they have made abundantly clear is they'll reject any idea, no matter how praiseworthy, if it is critical of the Sweeney team or comes from a known union dissident.

The magazine's staff sees themselves as cheerleaders, always on the upbeat, even if it means disregarding reality. An example: “The American labor movement, measured by the loyalty and pride of our members, is the strongest in the world and is stronger today than ever before.” So why all the fuss about the critical need for change?

The magazine has made it a point not to carry any news about Iraq, terrorism or homeland security. It would not even include a holiday greeting to the many union brothers and sisters who are in the armed forces in Iraq.

*America@work* distributes about 165,000 copies to unions in bundles, apportioned to the per capita payments they pay the AFL-CIO. Slightly more than only 1% of the 13 million union members receive copies. Secretary-Treasurer Richard Trumka's staff wouldn't tell us what the cost of the magazine was in 2003, but it's clearly an expensive publication, because its editors specialize in razzle-dazzle layouts and obsessive

(and distracting) use of full color in nearly every story.

Since the Executive Council meeting in March will be making important changes in how the AFL-CIO functions, it's an ideal time to take a hard look at labor's official magazine.

We suggest that the Council appoint a panel of distinguished labor editors selected by the International Labor Communications Association (ILCA) to study *America@work* over a three-month period and report its recommendations to the Council.—hkelber@igc.org



photo: Labor Beat

## **New video on AFL-CIO debate**

Review by Bill Onasch, [billonasch@kclabor.org](mailto:billonasch@kclabor.org)

Larry Duncan and the folks at Labor Beat have produced another top-notch video, “The AFL-CIO: The Workers Must Fix It!” It takes a look at the factional brawling in the upper echelons of the “house of labor” from a perspective of rank-and-file workers battling on the ground.

Interspersed with clips of such luminaries as John Sweeney, Andy Stern, and Lane Kirkland are remarks from commentators such as Bill Fletcher, a prominent figure in the labor, antiwar, and international solidarity movements who once served briefly as a special assistant to Sweeney; Harry Kelber, an old-time labor activist and educator who has written hundreds of articles over the years dissecting the workings of the union bureaucracy; Chris Silvera, leader of a Long Island Teamsters local and chair of the Teamsters Black Caucus; Kim Scipes, a labor educator who is an expert on labor foreign policy; Alan Benjamin, a delegate to the San Francisco labor council who has played a leading role in USLAW's solidarity work with Iraqi unions; and Mike Griffin, a former rank-and-file worker at AE Staley in Decatur, Illinois who came forward as a Road Warrior for solidarity during their long strike struggle a decade ago—and has been stirring up trouble for the bosses and bureaucrats ever since. (Some of you in Kansas City may remember Mike Griffin from when the local Labor Party helped arrange speaking engagements for him at the Labor and Politics conference, and a Missouri AFL-CIO convention, during the Staley struggle. A number of us also drove to Decatur to carry the Labor Party banner at mass solidarity rallies, where workers at Firestone and Caterpillar were also on strike at the same time.) In only 28 minutes, the video can't give all the answers on how the workers can fix our unions, but it sure poses the right questions. It's well worth a look and can be useful to show at union gatherings and house meetings. To order, send a \$15 check, payable to Labor Beat: Labor Beat, 37 S. Ashland, Chicago IL 60607 and specify whether you want DVD or VHS. Info: [mail@laborbeat.org](mailto:mail@laborbeat.org) / 312-226-3330

## The Workers Independent News: The New Face of Labor Media

By Rebecca Jamieson, *WorkingUSA* Vol. 8 Issue 4

The Workers Independent News (WIN) is on the forefront of Internet news broadcasting, and was one of the first organizations to produce a daily, online, labor-related newscast. This article discusses WIN's founding and history, and how the use of Internet and information technology, in many facets of WIN's structure, has allowed it to succeed as a truly progressive entity. In an age where a handful of corporate conglomerates dominate most news media in the United States, this independent, progressive structure is more crucial than ever before. While recording artists in the music industry and their companies have often seen the Internet as a bane, with file-sharing sites making it easy for Web users to pirate songs for free, WIN uses Internet and audio programs to its advantage, ensuring that its news is spread to listeners all over the country and the world. This article also examines the cost-effective nature of beginning a radio news service by broadcasting online, as opposed to more traditional start-up models. Lastly, the article explores the future of WIN and the implications it could have for the face of labor media and the public's perception of labor.

### Introduction

Three years ago, daily audio news broadcasts through the Internet were rare or unheard of. As one of the first online news organizations to give daily audio broadcasts, the Workers Independent News (WIN) used the Internet to revolutionize how the labor movement is represented in broadcast media. Today the Workers Independent News brings the words of working people to approximately two million listeners daily via the Internet and radio. WIN calculates the number of daily listeners based on reports provided by commercial radio stations that play WIN material. The Workers Independent News is an independent, not-for-profit audio news service that produces high-quality news focused on issues that are important to working people. WIN is broadcast on more than one hundred radio stations around the country, more than half of which carry WIN material on a daily basis. Currently, approximately 50 percent of these are college and community stations, while the other 50 percent consists of commercial stations. WIN news is also available on the Internet at [www.LaborRadio.org](http://www.LaborRadio.org).

### WIN's History

WIN's beginnings come from two sources. In the mid-1990s, a collective of labor activists began producing a program called Labor Radio in Madison, Wisconsin on WORT, a community radio station. The weekly show continues today, and focuses on news of working people in the Madison area. In starting Labor Radio, the activists discovered there were many other community-based labor news programs around the country, and they began to envision starting a network of these organizations. In the process of achieving this goal, Labor Radio became involved with the

Union Producers and Production Network (UPPNET), an organization of labor media activists from around the country. In the year 2000, UPPNET joined with Labor Radio and the Madison School for Workers to organize a conference to bring together labor and media activists from around the country to encourage the development of democratic labor media. In the months preceding the conference, Dr Frank Emspak, his Executive Assistant, Richard Thomson, WORT's Norm Stockwell, and UPPNET leaders Steve Zeltzer, Howard Kling and Larry Duncan created a proposal titled "The Internet Labor Radio Network." That paper later became the basis for WIN. The conference was hugely successful, drawing over three hundred participants. Over nine hundred additional people attended the Midwest premiere of the movie *Bread and Roses*. By the end of the conference, activists decided to launch a radio broadcast organization dedicated to the production of labor-related news. Dr. Frank Emspak agreed to head this endeavor.

Frank Emspak, a long-time labor activist and historian, earned his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Through decades of fighting for workplace justice, Emspak came to realize that if workers were to have a voice in the media, they would have to create it themselves. His vision was to make it possible for the majority of working people to hear regular news that spoke to their concerns, not just stock tickers and the interests of multinational corporations and their CEOs. Emspak and WIN's initial producers, John Anderson and John Hamilton, wanted WIN, first and foremost, to be a voice of everyday people. They also realized that in order for WIN to survive financially, there would need to be large-scale distribution of a high quality product at a minimal cost. At a time when daily labor news hadn't been on the airwaves since the 1950s, they turned to the Internet to spread WIN's message. Emspak's goal was to harness technology to improve the democratic content of society and the nature of the Workers Independent News reflects that vision by its grassroots news gathering and interactive website. With the advice of UPPNET and Executive Assistant Richard Thomson, WIN initiated a board of directors to guide the fledgling organization. Its original members included the Communication Workers of America (CWA), International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT), Service Employees International Union (SEIU), United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW), the painters and sheetmetal workers, as well as members of nonlabor community organizations.

### How WIN Uses the Internet to its Advantage

The Internet is the backbone of the Workers Independent News. WIN broadcasts a three-minute news headline every business day at [/www.LaborRadio.org](http://www.LaborRadio.org). Any person with Internet access is able to listen to WIN stories. WIN also airs several longer feature stories every week, submitted from professional journalists all over the country.

According to Emspak, "What makes WIN unique is what we do and how we do it." WIN supports grassroots

*continued on page 4*



## **WIN: New Face of Labor Media** *Continued from p. 4*

participation in media by listening to the voices of people in the labor movement. Using e-mail technology, WIN encourages unions, labor groups, and activists worldwide to e-mail news tips and press releases, which WIN often turns into news stories. With the overwhelming consolidation of media in the United States<sup>2</sup> and with the heavy corporate control in most newsrooms, working people have little or no influence in contributing to news and sharing their own experiences. WIN strives not only to cover issues important to working people, but to actually listen to news tips they send and then get their voices on the air. The use of e-mail makes it easy for workers to contribute news tips and issues they or their organizations face on a local level.

In order to encourage additional diversity in news content, WIN uses feature stories from a large group of reporters around the country, who report on issues as varied as rising sexual harassment of teenagers in the workplace, college students organizing at Yale University and the success of concerned citizens in New York City in keeping a Wal-Mart from building in Queens.

### **A Cost-Effective Broadcasting Model**

With only three years under its belt and ratings showing that WIN's daily listening audience numbers almost two million listeners on commercial radio stations alone, WIN is definitely having success finding an audience. Those numbers don't include the thousands of additional listeners that hear WIN material through community and college radio stations, via satellite radio, and on the WIN website.<sup>3</sup> But WIN's staff is tiny compared to the scope of the vision, with only four office staff and two producers at the central office in Madison, Wisconsin.

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*Today the Workers Independent News brings the words of working people to approximately two million listeners daily via the Internet and radio.*

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How has WIN gained such a huge audience with so little people power? The answer is a combination of hard work, perseverance, and the use of Internet technology. Use of the Internet allows WIN outreach staff access to data from union and labor websites. The WIN staff sends out daily e-mails notifying unions and labor groups when WIN has covered a story about their organization, or that they might find of interest. WIN staff is also able to use the information gathered online to do fundraising letters and phone calls. As a result, WIN has gotten the support of hundreds of unions, labor and media groups and individuals.

WIN's website is also key to affordable, successful distribution. By broadcasting news directly from the Web, WIN could be heard immediately and therefore advertised to radio stations. Online distribution also allows WIN to distribute broadcast quality material for a fraction of the cost of more traditional distribution methods, which are often extremely costly and time consuming. This excerpt from the WIN Business Plan details some of the traditional distribution models:

**Local radio station.** Starting a local radio station, which in itself is so fraught with problems as to make the venture practically impossible. Stations must be licensed in order to operate. To be licensed, a radio frequency is a prerequisite, and none are available except on low power. Thus, the only way both a frequency and a license can be secured is by buying or leasing an existing station. This could cost millions. Then, it would be necessary to staff the operation in order to develop and deliver total programming, of which news would be only one part. In a best-case scenario, this approach would be very costly and difficult. But, even if it were viable, the market and listening audience would be limited to a specific locale. WIN's news would not reach the national audience it currently serves.

**National contract syndication.** A second approach would be to form a contract syndication company that would lease large blocks of time from existing networks and stations. Existing examples are built around celebrity talent to attract listeners. In order to reach a national audience, time would need to be leased from as many stations as possible, in as many markets as possible, and for as much time during the day as possible, because news would be only part of the program. This could cost tens of millions of dollars, and the burden of selling advertising would be on the contract syndication company.

**Conventional short-form content programming (SFCP) using the Internet.** WIN is essentially a short-form content programming organization that produces headline news in ready-to-use formats. There are other SFCP organizations, but they are largely editorial and use satellite equipment of CDs for distribution. WIN, on the other hand, and each of its subscribers has immediate access to its distribution system—the Internet, which is not possible using satellite technology. The Internet is also highly reliable, having no interference from sunspots and other weather factors. Finally, the Internet sound file is of very high quality.<sup>4</sup>

WIN does distribute some promotional CDs directly to radio stations, but even if WIN were not aired via radio, its news would still be heard. Broadcasting news from the Web also allows people to hear WIN news globally—anywhere there's a computer with Internet access. No longer do listeners have to rely solely on radio for this type of programming.

Internet distribution of WIN news also makes it possible for subscribing radio stations to access WIN material whenever they wish. Subscribing costs for radio stations are minimal in comparison to many other news content providers. WIN often allows community and small college stations to use material for free in order to support small, independent stations that don't rely as strongly on advertising and, therefore, their advertisers' approval. By encouraging community and college stations to play WIN material, WIN also gains wider distribution.

While distributing material for free or at a low cost to community and college stations is one venue for getting radio airplay, breaking into the major radio market is a different beast entirely. The Labor Advertising Network of St. Louis, working with WIN, reached an agreement with KMOX, a huge radio station that covers most of Missouri and Southern Illinois, in the fall of 2004. This agreement made WIN the first daily labor news program to run on a commercial station since the 1950s. A month before this, the liberal talk show network, Air America, also began to air WIN material on a national basis.

## **WIN: New Face of Labor Media** *Continued from p. 5*

Another feature that makes the WIN website and distribution method unique is the WIN logo button. This small version of WIN's logo can be placed directly on the website of a union or an organization and, when clicked on, plays the daily WIN news headlines. This feature benefits both WIN and the organizations that place the button on their site, giving website visitors, a high quality labor newscast on a daily basis, and, at the same time, giving WIN publicity. An additional benefit of the logo button is that when clicked on, it plays WIN news, but doesn't open a new window or take visitors away from the organization's website.

The problems of contemporary media constitute a crisis for democracy. Until recently, there were very few clear progressive voices in mainstream media, and even fewer representing the labor movement. At the root of media's problems are the profit motive and the source of virtually all of their revenue-commercial advertising. In nearly any other business, this would not be a problem. But when the main product is information, following the fundamental business principle of giving the customers what they want puts the business objectives of media on a collision course with the essence of a democratic society. The basic cause of the problem is that commercial media is held captive by the financial interests of its owners and advertisers, and the news is either selected or tailored accordingly.<sup>5</sup> How can an organization use technology to overcome this challenge? The answer is that technology in and of itself cannot overcome the challenge. But using tools such as the Internet creates a vehicle to distribute news and information without the costs that so often inhibit disbursement of these messages to the public.

Furthermore, WIN strives to be free of these pressures by being truly independent. By taking income from diverse sources and having an online broadcast, ensuring that WIN will be heard even without carriage on radio stations, WIN has successfully sidestepped the self-censorship that is so common in mainstream media.

If WIN's mission remains successful, it will help change the face of media in the US by continuing to bring the unheard struggles of labor to mainstream radio stations nationwide. If the current harshly conservative political climate continues, the need for organizations like WIN will be even more pressing. WIN envisions broadcasting on radio stations in every major city in the country, continuing to educate and open dialogue between the citizens who are, after all, workers.

Rebecca Jamieson is the Outreach Coordinator and part-time producer for the Workers Independent News in Madison, Wisconsin. Ms. Jamieson is also a journalist for WORT, 89.9 FM, Madison. The author would like to thank Frank Emspak, Richard Thomson, and John Anderson for their assistance.

### Notes

1. Frank Emspak, personal interview, Madison, Wisconsin, 31 January 2005.
2. "Free Press: Who Owns the Media," 2003. [www.freepress.net/ownership](http://www.freepress.net/ownership).
3. Emspak, Frank and James Wrich. 2004. "Workers Independent News Business Plan," (Appendix: pp. 44-47)
4. *Ibid.*, pp. 18-19.
5. *Ibid.*, p. 1.

## **Kansas City, MO**

### **Hear Heartland Labor Forum on line**

#### **A recent show:**

"Family Feud III: The Future of the AFL-CIO"

The debate that's raging within the ranks of the labor leadership and which is threatening to break up



the federation focuses a lot on structure and use of resources and on how labor can turn around its declining fortunes. Many commentators have said that it's leaving out a lot: the rank-and-file, the issue of union democracy and the problem of apathy. Two commentators look at some of these criticisms, then we open it up for a few calls from listeners. As you will see, many people are quite passionate about this debate.

- Jerry Tucker, longtime labor activist and strategist, UAW member
- Kim Scipes, on AFL-CIO foreign policy and resolutions for the convention
- Call-ins from listeners
- Judy Ancel and Jeff Humfeld hosts

[www.umkc.edu/labor-ed/radio.htm](http://www.umkc.edu/labor-ed/radio.htm)

## **Member-made labor media takes off in Oregon**

By Wes Brain, OPEU District 4 Productions, Ashland, Oregon

In August, 2004 SEIU #503's General Council passed a resolution directing resources for member-produced labor television. This is exciting stuff and "member made labor media" is the newest buzz phrase as folks are gearing up to tell the many stories of working people. But first, some history to tell...

Back in 1995 public employees declared a strike in Oregon and successfully shut down the entire state for a week. Leading up to the strike SEIU campus workers at Southern Oregon University in Ashland appeared on an access TV show. Rogue Valley Community Television is located on campus, right where the union members work, and an interesting marriage was born. The successful production put faces to voices as campus workers told stories about the attacks against working people. This point in time really needs remembered. In Southern Oregon "member-made labor media" was born.

In 1997 SEIU #503 funded a video camera and some gear with expenses split between the statewide local and District 4 (five Southern Oregon counties), and this is when OPEU District 4 Productions was born. Now twice a week, cablecasts have taken place for over eight years. Programs are sometimes traded with other UPPNET producers and these productions from elsewhere also get air time.

OPEU District 4 Productions' success in Southern Oregon inspired the resolution which was passed by SEIU #503, Oregon's state-wide local of 38,000 workers.

Read the text of resolution on [page 6](#).

# National Proposal for Pacifica from KPFA Labor Collective

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The KPFA Labor Collective at its June 6, 2005 meeting proposed that KPFA and Pacifica do a series of national labor programming days in these coming months. This could be an opportunity to use the resources of Pacifica and its stations and affiliates to build our movement and carry out our network goals.

The proposals were:

July 25, 2005—Live coverage of the the AFL-CIO convention in Chicago. We propose that we include viewpoints of workers around the country as well and that Pacifica stations in LA, NY, Houston, Berkeley, D.C. do interviews with trade unionists on this debate and what they think are the issues facing working people.

There will be 4 people from the KPFA Labor Collective in Chicago who can help facilitate and do interviews. The ongoing internal conflict within the AFL-CIO should provide an overview on why this is happening and the viewpoints around it from the leaders of the unions and the rank and file around the country. It should also include reports on the issues of the war in Iraq, Venezuela, the media and other issues that will be on the agenda at the convention. We could use this program as a vehicle to link up with many unions who are under attack around the country and in the listener areas that the stations reach.

September 6, 2005—Labor Day “The Onslaught Against Working People” We propose a whole day of programming on working people which will also include Spanish and Chinese programming. One 3 hour segment would be on “Human Rights and The Right To Have a Union”. This segment would include interviews and stories about workers throughout the US who have tried to organize and the concerted national campaign by corporations to fire, threaten and terrorize workers who are trying to join unions. We also propose that there be a national call-in with workers to talk about the problem of organizing and the flagrant union busting that is going on. Bernie Pollock from the AFL-CIO organizing department has indicated that they might be interested in collaborating as well as the IAM in Northern California. This would include all unions who are involved in organizing and could be publicized by those organizations. We could have reports from all the station areas and then tie this to national pieces.

September 24, 2005—The War Abroad and The War At Home National Day/Night of Programming On The Wars The US Is involved in Both in Iraq and around the world.

On September 24th there will be national and international protests against the US war on Iraq. We propose not only that the demonstrations be covered but that we do programming in the communities around the country on how the war is effecting:

Workers-interviews on cutbacks, Students and Youth, GI's, The economy, The environment, Democratic Human Rights and Immigrants, Healthcare, Pensions and retired workers, Housing, Women. That is include a national musical/Cultural segment of both national and international music against war.

How it is affecting countries around the world, including the militarization and repression—Some of these could include Japan, Korea, Turkey, Columbia. It could also

include music and stories about how workers around the world are organizing against the wars.

We also propose that there be a national segment/debate on the causes and reasons for the war and the lessons of Vietnam. We also propose that the affiliates be invited to contribute segments on this day of programming and that we develop a web page with the programming and links to this page.

Steve Zeltzer, Chair, KPFA Labor Collective  
kpfalaborcollective@yahoo.com  
(510)848-6767 Extension 606

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## Member-made media *Continued from p. 5*

*The SEIU Local #503 General Council Resolution*

### Community Access Labor tv Program



Whereas mainstream television gives little regular and positive coverage of organized labor and the struggles of the working class, and

Whereas “branding” viewers requires purchasing regular television air time and broadcasting on an ongoing basis and is cost prohibitive, and Whereas the need of regular voices for workers is never more important than it is today, and

Whereas the struggles in the workplace give working people many stories to tell which are inviting, compelling and educational, and

Whereas seeing friends and neighbors on television gives locally produced public access television a sense of authenticity and community, and

Whereas producing local access television facilitates members working together as a team and is a very strong union building activity, and

Whereas running regular programming allows for outreach and advertising to build an audience, and

Whereas Oregon has several community access television stations which are ready-made venues for locally produced labor TV, and

Whereas access stations have training and certification classes which allow graduates to then use studio facilities and equipment for the production of television

Therefore, Be it resolved that SEIU 503 will provide staff services and finances for the recruiting and organizing of members to become producers of labor television in areas of Oregon where community access television exists, and

Be it further resolved that an ongoing program of member made labor television will be organized into a network for the sharing and distribution of labor productions, and

Be it further resolved that SEIU 503 will model its community access labor television programming after the finer components of “Our View” in Washington State and “Minnesota at Work”, and

Be it further resolved that this endeavor for member-made labor television will strive to have regular productions broadcast on community access stations all across the state of Oregon, and

Be it finally resolved that there be a financial cap of \$10,000 for this resolution.



## US & Canadian Labor Broadcast Programs\*

Show Title, Producer, City/Station, Phone No.

*Fighting Back*, Ralph Kessler, Berkeley, CA, 510-845-9285, KUSF 90.3 FM  
*David Bacon on Labor*, David Bacon, Berkeley, CA, 510-549-0291, KPSA 94.1 FM  
*Labor Line*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, SFLR 93.7 FM,  
*Working LA*, Henry Walton, Panorama City, CA, 818-894-4079, KPFK 90.7 FM  
*Talking Union*, Larry Dorman, Rock Hill, CT, 880-571-6191, WATR 1320 AM  
*Labor Express*, Wayne Heimbach, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, WLWU 88.7 FM  
*Labor Beat*, Larry Duncan, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, Chan. 19, cable tv  
*Illinois Labor Hour*, Bill Gorrell, Champaign, IL, 217-359-9338, WEFT 90.1 FM  
*AFSCME On-Line*, Dan Hart, Dorchester, MA, 617-266-3496, cable-tv  
*Heartland Labor Forum*, Judy Ancel, Kansas City, MO, 816-235-1470, KKFI 90.1 FM  
*Minnesota at Work*, Howard Kling, Minneapolis, MN, 612-624-5020, MCN Cable  
*Building Bridges*, Ken Nash, New York, NY, 212-815-1699, WBAI 99.5 FM  
*Communique*, Bill Henning, New York, NY, 212-228-6565, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*It's Your City, It's Our Job*, Pat Passanilin, New York, NY, 212-815-1535, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*America's Work Force*, Jerrod Sorkey, Eastlake, OH, 440-975-4262, WERE 1300 AM  
*Boiling Point*, Michael Wood, Cincinnati, OH, 513-961-4348, WAIF 88.3 FM  
*Talking Union*, John Lavin, Norristown, PA, 610-660-3372, WHAT 1340 AM  
*Labor on the Job*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, BUT Ch. 29 cable  
*Rhode Island Labor Vision*, Chuck Schwartz, Cranston, RI, 401-463-9900, Ch. 14, cable-tv  
*Solidarity*, John Speier, Kalamazoo, MI, 616-375-4638, Cable Access  
*Talkin' Union Labor*, Rick Levy, Austin, TX, 512-477-6195 internet radio  
*Which Side Are You On?*, Hal Leyshon, Middlesex, VT, 802-223-4172, radio  
*Radio Labor Journal*, Bil Borders, Everett, WA, 425-921-3454, KSER 90.7 FM  
*Labor Radio News*, Frank Emspak, Madison, WI, 608-262-2111, WORT 89.9 FM  
*LaborVision*, John Webb, St. Louis, MO, 314-962-4163, DHTV,  
*Labor at the Crossroads*, Simin Farkhondeh, New York, NY, 212-966-4248,  
CUNY-TV cable, ext. 216  
*OPEU Productions*, Wes Brain, Ashland, OR, 541-482-6988, cable-tv  
*Labor Link TV*, Fred Lonidier, La Jolla, CA, 619-552-0740, cable-tv,  
*First Tuesday*, Leo Canty, Connecticut, 860-257-9782, cable-tv,  
*Letter Carriers*, Carl Bryant, San Fran., CA, 415-885-0375, Today TV 214, cable-tv,  
*Springfield Labor Beat*, Jim Hade, Springfield, IL, 217-787-7837, cable-tv  
*726 Express*, Stewart Ransom, New York, NY, 718-761-6681, Staten Is. Cable  
*Rank-And-File*, Larry Maglio, New York, NY, N.A., Staten Is. Cable  
*Labor on the Line*, David King, Portland, OR  
*working TV*, Julius Fisher, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 604-253-6222  
*Labor Radio*, Bill Zimmerman, Portland, OR, 360-695-6552  
*PM Primetimes Labor Show*, Larry Johnson, www.gmptoday.org, Kokomo, IN

\*This list may not be complete. Additions contact:  
UPPNET News editor Larry Duncan at: [lduncan@igc.org](mailto:lduncan@igc.org)

### Building Bridges Continued from p. 8

We would like to thank the New York Labor Communications Council for this award which represents a vote of confidence in our program. Building Bridges has been the recipient of numerous other awards over the years from the N. Y. Labor Communications Council, the International Labor Communications Association, the Workplace Project and other organizations.

While the labor movement has been in crisis for some time now, the present situation is extremely crucial for its very survival. Building Bridges is the only independent radio labor news and discussion program in the New York City area as well as a leader in labor reporting nationwide. We cover the labor and social change movements on the local, national and worldwide fronts with the philosophy that its all about movement building and that the labor and community movements must unite to win. We urge all our listeners to spread the word that Building Bridges is a valuable resource for everyone interested in social change in the U.S. and worldwide. Tell your friends and co-workers about us, ask your union or community newspaper to give us a plug and keep listening on the air and on the Web thru streams and posts.

### UPPNET National Executive Board

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### UPPNET OBJECTIVES:

1. To promote and expand the production and use of television and radio shows pertinent to the cause of organized labor and the issues relevant to all working people.
2. To establish and promote the general distribution and circulation of this programming.
3. To address issues regarding the media and its fair and democratic use and accessibility by labor and other constituencies generally.
4. To encourage and promote the preservation of television and radio broadcasts pertinent to labor.
5. To establish a code of ethic governing television and radio production practices and other such matters UPPNET may determine as relevant to its work.
6. To require all productions to work under a collective bargaining agreement, secure waivers or work in agreement with any television or movie industry union having jurisdiction in the area.

[www.uppnet.org](http://www.uppnet.org)

## Anchorage union is set to purchase left-leaning radio station

By Sarana Schell, Anchorage Daily News

June 18th, 2005—An electrical workers union has stepped up to buy Anchorage's liberal talk radio station, allowing operators to upgrade equipment, promote the station and broaden the state's political debate, Rich McClear, a co-owner of KUDO-AM 1080, said Thursday. The Federal Communications Commission must still clear the \$500,000 deal. It wouldn't be the first union-owned radio station in the country. WCFL in Chicago, "The Voice of Labor," started in 1926 and broadcast for five decades.

[Read rest of article at: [www.adn.com/news/alaska/story/6619659p-6504821c.html](http://www.adn.com/news/alaska/story/6619659p-6504821c.html)]

# Building Bridges A Winner!

By Mimi Rosenberg and Ken Nash



On May 19, 2005 the New York Metro Labor Communications Council presented its Doherty-Wells Award for Excellence in Non-Periodical Communications to WBAI's Building Bridges: Your Community and Labor Report produced by Ken Nash and Mimi Rosenberg.

The Judge's report states that: "Nash and Rosenberg provide a service to the labor movement by presenting high quality, varied and important material that is beyond the scope of most union publications. The items included in this entry cover exploitation of garment workers in Bangladesh, the role of Wal-Mart as a

retailer which is able to determine how manufacturers will operate, and a violent strike in a sugar plantation and mill in the Philippines."

The winning programs were aired on our regular weekly program on WBAI Mondays from 7- 8pm EST in the NYC area and streamed over the WBAI Web page. They were also aired on WBAI's morning program WakeUp Call and distributed nationally over our weekly National Edition which is archived at [www.buildingbridgesradio.org](http://www.buildingbridgesradio.org)

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**For UPPNET News back Issues:**  
[www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm](http://www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm)

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