

# Carpenters Local 713 Elections

## VOTE Thursday June 25th 7am to 7pm

### Campaign for A Rank and File President

#### ✓ Rob Rooke for Local President

Working Carpenter and Union Member for over 25 years



For the last 10 years I worked for one employer as a T-Bar carpenter until I was laid off in January. I have since been unemployed for 4 months.

We are living through the worst economic crisis since the 1930s. There are almost 14 million working people unemployed in the country and all those working are feeling the pressure from the boss. This is the not the time for the union to be flexible with our contract, but stand firm for its members' rights.

Working people voted for change in November and we have had more bank and corporate bailouts and we have not had the huge infrastructure spending that we need to soften the blow of big business' economic crisis. We need independent political action.

As President I will continue to highlight the need for change that improves the lives of working people. For our movement to go forward we will need to return to our roots, those that our predecessors used to build our union.

#### ✓ Increase Union Work

Our industry was widely unionized by *shutting down* non-union jobs during the last depression. In 10 short years from 1933-1943 total union membership in the US grew from 2 million to 14 million (*Bureau of Labor Statistics*) through effective mass picketing and other tactics that should be applied today to bring all construction under the union.

#### ✓ Shorter Work Week

On page 3 of our union's Constitution it states that every local should fight for a 30-hour work-week to create jobs. Our union, when it is negotiating our contract, needs to put this issue back on the front burner. A 5-hour reduction in the work-week with no loss of pay would create 250 jobs for our local.

#### ✓ Lower Dues for Unemployed

Our Local is prohibited from lowering the dues of those out of work, but we need to explore concrete measures that can economically benefit unemployed carpenters. Could every unemployed carpenter get a monthly \$10 grocery card which would equal a halving of dues.

#### ✓ Dispatch Fairness

I opposed the introduction of phone dispatching. To return confidence in the Dispatch process all dispatch activity should be publicly posted with the number of the carpenter, the day and time she or he was called and the response. Openness will undo any sense of unfairness, whether it exists or not.

#### ✓ Language Equality

Every member should have the right to deal with the union in their first language. All dispatch calls must be made by bi-lingual employees.

#### ✓ Oppose all and any Racism and Discrimination

*As President I will appoint a committee of Unemployed, including the widest number of out of work carpenters, to promote our specific issues and concerns.*

*Voting has traditionally taken place on a Roll Call Day. For this election it is not. This is not right. Roll Call Day voting means a greater input of all members, especially those of us out of work.*

**Remember to Vote in 3 weeks!**



**“Get involved in the campaign for a rank and file President!”**  
**Ray Graham, Rob's Campaign Manager**

For more flyers or get involved call us at  
**510 220 3047**

