



Mike Phillips, secretary-treasurer of the Clark, Skamania, Klickitat Counties Labor Council in Vancouver, wrings out his gloves after completing a 100-mile motorcycle poker run benefit for kids.

Motorcycle riders raise cash for charity

Rain and cool weather didn't dampen the spirits of more than 100 motorcycle riders who participated in the fifth annual Motorcycle Poker Run and Chili Cook-Off June 9.

Sponsored by the non-profit "Union for Kids," money raised goes to Doernbecher Children's Hospital in Portland. In addition to the Poker Run registration, funding comes from a raffle for a new Harley-Davidson motorcycle, a silent auction, 50/50 drawing and other raffle ticket sales. The amount collected had not been finalized at press time, but co-chair Lee Duncan was confident the group would raise \$25,000.

"The folks here really opened up their wallets this year," Duncan said.

Rick Wardell of Vancouver was the winner of the motorcycle — a black Dyna Low-Rider FXDL.

Twelve-year-old George Gilstrap, the son of Rick Gilstrap, a member of Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 8, won the 50/50 drawing worth \$216. He donated his win-

nings back to the charity.

Sherry Roche won the Poker Run "high hand" with a full house, and Jim Bristow took home the "low-

hand" prize with a 9 high. Stephanie Peck of Teamsters Local 223 won the chili cook-off against four other competitors.



Event organizers Lee Duncan (left) of IBEW Local 48 and Barry White of Millwrights Local 711 prepare to read the name of the winner of the raffle for a Harley-Davidson motorcycle. The name of Rick Wardell was drawn by Stirling Walker, the daughter of Shannon Walker, a member of Office and Professional Employees Local 277.

Verle Steele to retire

SALEM — A retirement party for Verle Steele, the Oregon AFL-CIO's labor liaison to the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) is slated for Friday, July 6, at 6 p.m. at the Central Electrical Training Center, 33309 Highway 99E, Tangent.

Steele is retiring after serving as the labor liaison since May 1995. His last day on the job is June 30.

Steele is a fourth-generation millworker. He started his career at Santiam Plywood Mill in Sweet Home in 1963. He served as a shop steward and vice president of the Western Council of Industrial Workers (now the Carpenters Industrial Union) Local 2791. He was elected business representative of the local in 1983.

In 1994, at the age of 51, the mill — which was purchased by Willamette Industries in 1967 — closed its opera-

tions. By that time, numerous mills were shuttering and laying off woodworkers. Several wood products unions came together to discuss the needs of their members.

With assistants from the Labor Education and Research Center, the State of Oregon, through the U.S. Department of Labor, initiated a contract with the Oregon AFL-CIO in 1995 for a labor liaison position to help dislocated workers.

As labor liaison for the state labor federation, Steele is represented by Electrical Workers Local 48.






The Oregon AFL-CIO's Workforce Development Department helps direct workers into skill enhancement programs; helps dislocated workers train for new careers; and provides technical assistance to local and regional workforce investment boards.

Local Motion

May 2007

Union election activity in Oregon and SW Washington, according to the National Labor Relations Board and the Oregon Employment Relations Board

Elections held

Company	Date	Union	Location	Results:		
				Union	No Union	
Portland Development Commission	5/1	Oregon AFSCME	Portland	63	50	
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan (Portland)	5/1	SEIU Local 49	Portland	40	15	
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan (Clackamas)	5/3	SEIU Local 49	Portland	21	5	
Oregon Housing & Associated Services	5/15	ATU Local 757	Sandy	6	8	

Elections requested

Company	Location
Union	# of employees
Peninsula Truck Lines	Redmond
Teamsters Local 962	6
City of Veneta	Veneta
American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees	12
Laidlaw Transit	West Linn
Teamsters Local 206	102
Sunriver Service District (police)	Sunriver
Sunriver Police Officers Association	10
Coca-Cola Bottling of North Bend	North Bend
Teamsters Local 206	14
Community Tissue Services	Portland
Office & Professional Employees International Union Local 11	12
Chartwells Dining Service (decertification)	Vancouver
Teamsters Local 58	155

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