

# ...Union members made a difference

(From Page 1)

states, the difference was even bigger, with union members going for Obama 69 to 28 — a 41-point margin. Among the electorate as a whole, Obama won by 13 points in Wisconsin, 16 points in Michigan, 10 points in Minnesota and 11 points in Pennsylvania, all states with large numbers of union households. [In Oregon and Washington, Obama's margin of victory was 16.29 percent (56.74-40.45 percent) and 16.68 percent (57.41-40.73 percent), respectively.]

Overall, McCain won among voters ages 65 and up, but active and retired union members older than 65 went for Obama by a 46-point margin. And overall, McCain won among veterans, but union veterans went for Obama by a 25-point margin.

More than 250,000 union volunteers devoted time and energy to reach out to fellow union members. They knocked on 10 million doors, made 70 million phone calls, distributed 27 million worksite fliers and sent 57 million union mail pieces.

And that made a difference in races from the White House to state legislatures.

In Oregon, the AFL-CIO political effort almost certainly made the difference in electing Jeff Merkley to the U.S. Senate.

For three months leading up to the election, the state federation ran a phone bank out of its office on NE Russell St. in Portland. The Working America community affiliate also played a major part, staffing up to as many as 150 canvassers in the final

months. And the effort was bulked up by "lost-timers," union activists who get temporary leave from their employers, and have their "lost time" wages paid by the union.

Mike Pucik, for example — a member of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 757 — worked on the Oregon AFL-CIO political campaign for three months on lost time.

So did Kevin Card, a member of National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Branch 82. Card was one of seven NALC lost-timers in Oregon, and over 200 nationwide, reflecting a decision of the national leadership to emphasize "boots on the ground" instead of campaign contributions.

NALC members helped the state labor federation organize its door-to-door canvass, using their workplace expertise to divide up turf into walkable routes for volunteers to knock on doors in the most efficient order. And on election day, from 5 p.m. on, NALC Branch 82 had over 70 volunteers stand in front of postal boxes that had no more deliveries for the day, directing voters to drop boxes where they could still get ballots in on time.

Oregon also swelled with volunteers from out of state, like Paul Rasso of the California School Employees Association. CSEA sent about 75 lost-timers to five other states, including over a dozen to Oregon. Rasso got leave from his job as a technician at the Colton Joint Unified School District to spend two weeks in Portland help the union campaigns

for Obama and Merkley, and against Measure 64.

"Defeating Measure 64 is a big plus for us in California," Rasso said. "We were afraid something like that, which would affect public employees, would roll over to California."

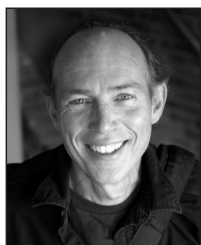
Within the Change to Win federation, union staff and volunteers ran a similar campaign, with phone banks and door knocking of union members and the general public. Affiliates pooled resources to do joint mailings and canvasses. Service Employees International Union, for example, reported making nearly a quarter million phone calls in Oregon, knocking on over 100,000 doors, and distributing over a third of a million pieces of literature.

"I feel like the registration work and the field activity we did around the ballot measures had an impact further down on the ballot," said SEIU Local 503 political director Arthur Towers. "You look at the Oregon House Democrats picking up five seats, look at Kate Brown and Ben Westlund winning office."

Towers said Oregon union activists had three strong motivators this year: Obama, Merkley and Bill Sizemore. "That extra motivation turned out union voters and energized union activists. And the anti-Employee Free Choice Act attack ads really set the terms of the debate for this election and galvanized our folks to kick in. Every time they hit us between the eyes, our members come back more committed and more engaged."



James Coon



Raymond Thomas



Cynthia Newton



Kimberly Tucker



Chris Frost

## The team at SWANSON, THOMAS & COON

Get Workers' Compensation benefits for on-the-job injuries or illness.

Get Social Security benefits if you can't work.

Recover damages if you are injured by someone's negligence.

Helping injured people for over 25 years.

can help you:

Workers Compensation

Construction Injuries

Death Claims

Personal Injury/Product Liability

Social Security Disability

Call us today at **503-228-5222**  
Straight answers. No cost for consultation.



SWANSON, THOMAS & COON ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
820 S.W. Second Avenue, Suite 200  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
[www.stc-law.com](http://www.stc-law.com)

FREE

## BARGAIN COUNTER

Free classified ads to subscribers

DEADLINE: Friday prior to publication  
Published 1st and 3rd Fridays

Now accepting e-mails

Send to: Michael492@comcast.net

Mail to: NWLP, PO Box 13150, Portland OR 97213

(Please include union affiliation)

- 15-20 words • No commercial or business ads • 1 ad per issue
- All lower case (NO CAPITAL LETTERS, PLEASE) •

Ads MUST include area code *or they will not be published*

### AUTOMOTIVE

'86 FORD F250, one owner, 5.8, 94,785 actual mileage, no rust, no damage, \$1,900. 503 841-0761 (Woodburn)  
PARTS TRUCK, '80 Chevy short wide 4x4, 283, 4sp, 208 gears, 50 mph low range. 541 374-8305 (Gary)  
4 STEEL RIMS orig. factory off '89 Toyota PU 4x4, like new. \$100. 503 286-3258  
'72 CHEV TRUCK, 3/4 ton, LWB, Cheyenne camper package, AC, PB, PS, canopy, rear slider, \$4,300. 503 245-6714  
4 NEW TOYOTA Highlander 17" alloy wheels, fits 2003-2008 models, \$150. 503 625-2701  
CUSTOM FIBERGLASS tool box for full size PU or tac box, \$110. 503 656-1153  
'01 NISSAN PICKUP; Desert Runner; AT; V-6; 52,300 mi.; excellent condition, \$8,500. 971 235-1122  
TIRE CHAINS, new, 1 pr. fits 225/75R14 thru 6.50-16lt. lug reinforced, USA made, 1 pr. fits 12.50-15, 12.50-16.5, \$50 per pr. 360 213-9540  
'09 NISSAN VERSA S, only 60 miles, auto, air, 4cyl, extd warranty, \$14,500. 503-803-4633 or 503-256-9547

BOAT TRAILER, 20-foot Shorelander, like new, 5000# with brakes. 503 232-3685  
1976 SEAKING 12' aluminum boat with trailer and title, \$550. call Robert, 503-838-7955

### MISCELLANEOUS

METAL STAND for 6" x 36" jointer, Craftsman, \$30. 503 761-0003  
GUN HISTORY buffs: 550 American Rifleman magazines from 1947-2007 (some partial years) in good cond, \$125. 503 363-4994  
CARHARTT DETROIT JACKET, never worn, men's, blanket-lined, large/reg, color petrol, w/embroidered Local Union 247 logo, \$70. 360 887-1134  
WOOD FUTON, excellent condition, premium covered mattress, three covered pillows, makes into full size bed. \$300. 503 558-1844  
VANNA WHITE DOLLS, 2 boxed, 2 original outfits and hairbrush, shoes and bracelets in each, \$10 ea. 503 283-4060  
TOW DOLLY in excl cond, new wiring, magnet lights, not many miles, 6 yrs old, kept inside, \$1,000. 503 630-4970  
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR at Tigard Church of God, 15670 SW 98th Ave., Tigard, Oregon, Dec. 5-6, from 9 am to 5 pm. 503 639-4000

### HOUSING

ROCKAWAY BEACH house, 3 bed, 2 bath, sleeps 10, great amenities, minutes to beach or shops. 503 355-2136 or 503 709-6018

### WANTED

OLD WOODWORKING tools, planes, levels, chisels, handsaws, slicks, adzes, wrenches, folding rulers, old leather tools, tool chests. 503-659-0009  
MONEY FOR older tile tables with wood or wrought iron legs. 503 653-1506  
LOG CROSS cut timber saws, log saw handles & hardware, anything logging, woodworking hand tools, chisels, slicks, adze, axes. 503 819-3736  
FIREWOOD. 503 452-3156 (eves. or leave message)  
MOTORCYCLES running or not, cash paid, also musical instruments. 503 880-8183  
JUNK CARS, removal of unwanted cars and pickups. 503 31-8600

### FOR THE HOME

ELECTROPEDIC BED, mint condition, 30" x 80", still in plastic. 503 829-6539  
2 NAVY BLUE leather recliners, \$200; GE washer and gas dryer, clean, good cond., \$150. 503 245-0122

### SPORTING GOODS

'76 SEASWIRL 16' w/50hp Merc. Motor, \$900 OBO. 503 860-8681  
12 GA DOUBLE BARREL SHOTGUN, made in Spain beautifully engraved must see to appreciate \$400 firm. 503-939-9453



**Danner**

Rain Forest Boots  
Made in America!

Try a pair on, you'll like them.

Tough boots for the Northwest.

**AL'S SHOES**

5811 SE 82nd, Portland 503-771-2130  
Mon-Fri 10-7:30 Sat 10-5:30 Sun 12-6

## Bureau of Labor & Industries

Apprenticeship Representative

BEND, OREGON

Current opening for Apprenticeship Representative to work from our Bend field office. Assist industry and industry leaders in establishing and promoting apprenticeship and training programs and in developing strategies to attract new employers to participate in existing apprenticeship programs. Interpret and communicate State and Federal laws and requirements related to apprenticeship and training; conduct program compliance reviews for Apprenticeship Committees to determine compliance with State and Federal laws. Research, prepare, and present information at public meetings, community colleges, labor unions, employee associations, employers, schools, colleges, and career education groups. Occasional overnight travel required.

Salary is \$2,945 - \$4,286/month plus full benefits. Please see Announcement #LE080450 at [www.oregonjobs.org](http://www.oregonjobs.org); application materials are available online. Or call 971-673-0783 for application materials. Closing date for all applications is Dec. 1, 2008.

BOLI is an equal opportunity employer committed to workplace diversity.