

# IN MEMORIAM

Swan Nelson, a 63-year member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, passed away March 5. He was 85.

Nelson served as executive secretary-treasurer of the then-Portland District Council of Carpenters for many years beginning in the mid-1960s.

The council has since undergone several mergers and is now the Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters.

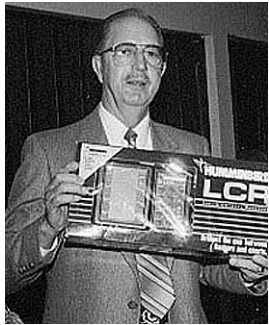
Nelson was elected as a full-time business agent for the Carpenters Council in 1954. He worked for the union until 1974, when he returned to the field as a carpenter. In 1976 he went to work at the Job Corps, starting as a pre-apprenticeship carpentry instructor at Timber Lake and later assisting in the opening of a carpenters' training program at Springdale in east Multnomah County.

He retired in 1984.

In the late 1990s he survived bouts with prostate and throat cancer.

Throughout his career Nelson represented the Carpenters on the executive boards of the Oregon AFL-CIO, Northwest Oregon Labor Council, and Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council.

He served on the Multnomah County Planning Commission, and on the board of the Union Labor Retire-



ment Association. He was appointed by Gov. Tom McCall to a workers' compensation task force that studied how to make power tools safer.

He also served as co-chair of a 1950s labor committee that raised funds and recruited volunteers for construction of the first OMSI.

He was inducted into the Northwest Oregon Labor Retirees Council Hall of Fame in April 2000.

Nelson was born April 26, 1923 in Clark Fork, Idaho, one of nine siblings.

He came to Portland to work on the new Bonneville Dam project, joining Operating Engineers Local 701.

He served in the Navy from 1942-46 during World War II. After his discharge he returned to Portland, where he joined and became active in Carpenters Local 738. That union later merged into Local 1388 in Oregon City.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jeanette, in 2006. They married in September 1946.

Nelson is survived by his sons, James C. and Chris J.; and daughter, Patty A. Richmire.

Memorial contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society.

# Judge bans labor adversary Bill Sizemore from running charities

Bill Sizemore — the perennial sponsor of anti-union initiatives on the Oregon ballot — now faces a court order banning him from having a role in any tax-deductible non-profit charity.

Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge Janice Wilson issued the order March 6 after lawyers from a teachers union and the Oregon attorney general's office showed that Sizemore violated an earlier court order that restricted his handling of money for non-profits.

That order resulted from a 2002 jury decision in a lawsuit filed by the Oregon Education Association (OEA) and American Federation of Teachers Oregon, later joined by the State of Oregon.

The jury found that organizations controlled by Sizemore had engaged in a pattern of forgery and fraud in campaigns to get anti-union initiatives on the 2000 ballot. Sizemore used a sham charity to avoid revealing the identity of his political donors, and to give them tax deductions they weren't legally entitled to.

Under the 2003 court order, Sizemore was instructed to obey all campaign finance and charitable organization laws, and banned from handling money for any tax-deductible non-



BILL SIZEMORE

Sizemore's mother and a close friend on the board, and did no meaningful work analyzing the fiscal impact of ballot measures. ATRF enabled Sizemore donor Loren Parks to claim a tax deduction for hundreds of thousands of dollars of contributions that were paid out to Sizemore while he worked on anti-union initiatives for the 2008 ballot.

ATRF paid for everything from a time share vacation rental to Sizemore's daughters braces, yet Sizemore could not show the court any meaningful work he'd done for the charity.

"It was created as a sham," Judge Wilson said. "It was run as a sham."

Having violated the ban on handling money for charitable non-profits, Sizemore is now banned from running

profit.

But Sizemore flouted that order when he set up a charitable non-profit in another state.

American Tax Research Foundation (ATRF) — chartered in Nevada — had

or being paid by any charitable non-profit, and must get Judge Wilson's permission to fill those roles for any political-cause-oriented non-profit. He can still serve as chief petitioner on ballot measures, but will face close scrutiny if he raises or handles money for the campaigns.

The court order runs through 2013. OEA attorney Greg Hartman said Judge Wilson's ruling was more restrictive of Sizemore than even the unions had asked for.

"If you had to sum it up, the purpose [of the court order] is to get him out of the charitable organization business," Hartman said.

As he has with every previous ruling, Sizemore made statements to the press blaming his legal difficulties on the judge, jury, unions, and elected leaders like the Oregon attorney general, whose job is to enforce campaign finance and charitable activities law.

"Bill's perspective is the law doesn't apply to him," Hartman said. "He can keep pointing fingers, but the reality is that the evidence is overwhelming that he has simply continued to ignore the law and ignore the court's orders, continued to do whatever he damn well pleased, and it's finally catching up with him."

**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

**NORTHWEST LABOR PRESS**  
(International Standard Serial Number 0894-444X)  
Established in 1900 at Portland, Oregon as a voice of the labor movement.  
4275 NE Halsey St., P.O. Box 13150, Portland, Ore. 97213  
Telephone: (503) 288-3311  
Editor: Michael Gutwig  
Staff: Don McIntosh, Cheri Rice  
Published on a semi-monthly basis on the first and third Fridays of each month by the Oregon Labor Press Publishing Co. Inc., a non-profit corporation owned by 20 unions and councils including the Oregon AFL-CIO. Serving more than 120 union organizations in Oregon and SW Washington. Subscriptions \$13.75 per year for union members.  
Group rates available to trade union organizations.  
PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT PORTLAND, OREGON.  
CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE: Three weeks are required for a change of address. When ordering a change, please give your old and new addresses and the name and number of your local union.  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NORTHWEST LABOR PRESS, P.O. BOX 13150, PORTLAND, OR 97213-0150

Carpenters, Electricians, Laborers, Glaziers, Sheetmetal Workers, Floorcoverers, Bricklayers, Cement Masons, Roofers, Asbestos Workers, Millwrights, Painters, Elevators, Plasterers, Family

**IBEW & United Workers FCU**  
Proudly serving union members and their families since 1954.

**Starting this May we're becoming a CU Service Center, what does that mean for you?**

While conducting business at our credit union you can access your accounts at other participating credit unions at the same time. For a complete list of CU Service Centers visit [www.cuswirl.com](http://www.cuswirl.com) or call (888) 287-9475.

**Go Green**

**Stop making multiple trips to take care of your finances, save time and money by making one stop!**

**Making life simpler one step at a time!**

Carpenters, Electricians, Laborers, Glaziers, Sheetmetal Workers, Floorcoverers, Bricklayers, Cement Masons, Roofers, Asbestos Workers, Millwrights, Painters, Elevators, Plasterers, Family