

UNION DEMOCRACY

# Plumbers & Fitters Local 290 members elect Lou Christian as business manager

It was his third race against incumbent Al Shropshire

Members of United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters (UA) Local 290 elected Lou Christian to a three-year term as business manager in ballots counted Jan. 8. A former assistant business manager of the local, Christian outpolled incumbent business manager Al Shropshire 708 to 561. It was his third race against Shropshire; this time, he campaigned alongside former union representatives Dennis Mask, Joe Neely and John Kimberling. Taking office Jan. 19, Christian will appoint Mask as assistant business manager, and Neely and Kimberling as business agents.

Christian's campaign centered on stabilizing the local's finances, increasing financial transparency, improving the apprenticeship experience, and increasing member involvement in decisions about training. He also pledged to take a strong stand against all forms of discrimina-

tion, and plans to appoint a committee of members to develop a bylaws resolution about discrimination.

"We're a brotherhood and sisterhood, and everybody should feel welcome," Christian told the Labor Press.



Lou Christian

Local 290 represents about 4,300 members in the western two-thirds of Oregon, three Southwest Washington counties, and Humboldt and Del Norte counties in California. Specialists in the fabrication, installation and servicing of piping systems, they earn \$43.82 hour plus \$28.58 an hour in benefits under their contract with the Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association, a coalition of more than 250 union-signatory employers.

Christian, 60, is a resident of Tualatin and 39-year member of the UA. Born in Springfield, Christian lived all over Oregon growing up as the son of a school teacher and a union millwright at Weyerhaeuser. After graduating high school in Central Point, he studied welding at

Lane Community College and became an apprentice at UA Local 481 (which became part of Local 290 in 1985.)

Over the years, Christian worked as a steamfitter at paper mills, medical facilities, factories, shipyards, and water filtration and nuclear power plants. His most recent job was for Harder Mechanical; his last day there was Jan. 12.

He also served Local 290 as vice president, president, trustee, and delegate to AFL-CIO and building trades councils. In 2001, he was appointed full-time business agent by then-business manager Matt Walters.

**Local 290 members also elected:**

- President** Robert Porter
- Vice president** Rick Two Bears
- Executive Board** John Foote, Region 1; Shawn Mask, Region 2; Dominic DePiero, Region 3
- Examining Board** Eric Fanning and Erv Garrison, ACR; Bill Duke and Jim Eastman, Metal Trades; Ed Burner and Pete Bakker, Oil Burner; Randal Nelson and Ramon Ramon, Pipefitter; Russell Hill and Josh Zimmer, Plumber
- Finance Committee** Dave Hawth and Chris McNicholas
- Inside Guard** Josh Rudzik



Bob Carroll (right), president of the Columbia-Pacific Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, led the oath of office for officers Jan. 9. From left to right are Steven Purdy, Nate Stokes, Geoff Kossak, and Willy Myers. Terms of office are three years.

## New officers at Columbia Pacific BCTC

Willy Myers was re-elected unopposed to a third term as executive secretary-treasurer (EST) of the Columbia-Pacific Building and Construction Trades Council. The CPBCTC represents approximately 20,000 construction workers employed by more than 2,000 signatory employers, in 25 crafts with jurisdiction in Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington counties in Oregon, and Clark County, Washington.

Myers, 48, is a member of Sheet Metal Workers Local 16. He was first elected to the post in December 2013. EST is a full-time paid position.

In other election results, IBEW Local 48 business agent Bob Carroll was re-elected president; Mitch Ricker of Laborers Local 737 was tapped for vice president; and Sprinkler Fitters Local 669 business agent Steven Purdy was re-elected sergeant-at-arms.

Russ Garnett, business manager of Roofers Local 49, Geoff Kossak, business manager of Cement Masons Local 555, and Nate Stokes, a union rep for Operating Engineers Local 701, were elected trustees.

All candidates ran unopposed. Terms are for three years.

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<b>Share</b>	<b>.10% APY*</b>	.03% APY	.01% APY	.01% APY	.01% APY
<b>Money Market/ Special Club</b>	<b>0.50%</b>	.03%	.03%	.03%	.05%
<b>CDs/Share Certificates</b>					
6mo	.40%	.02%	.01%	.01%	.05%
12mo	.85%	.05%	.01%	.05%	.10%
24mo	<b>1.25%</b>	.10%	.05%	.15%	.20%
36mo	<b>1.25%</b>	.12%	.05%	.20%	.35%
48mo	<b>2.00%</b>	.15%	.10%	.25%	.50%

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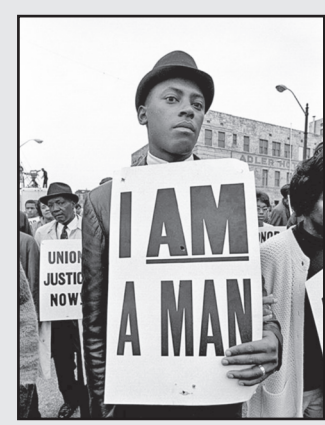
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\*Annual Percentage Yield. Rates as of 3.7.17. Pacific NW Ironworkers FCU only \$100 minimum deposit to earn listed APY. Bank minimum of \$10,000 deposit to earn the listed APY.



## Were you part of it when it happened?

The Northwest Labor Press is looking for stories of labor union members who participated in the struggle for civil rights, who helped win racial justice improvements in the workplace, or fought to make unions more equitable and inclusive. To share your story, call us at 503-288-3311 — or email us at editor@nwlaborpress.org.

## UNIONIZATION → NOV-DEC 2017

The following are Oregon and Southwest Washington workplaces where workers have decided whether to be represented by a union. The thumbs-up symbol means workers will be union-represented. Thumbs-down means they'll be on their own. The information comes from the National Labor Relations Board and the Oregon Employment Relations Board.

Employer (Location) Union	Yes-No
<b>Frontier Rehab &amp; Extended Care</b> (Longview) SEIU Local 775 ■ 23 registered nurses and licensed practical nurses	16-1
<b>Swire Coca-Cola</b> (Wilsonville) Teamsters Local 162 ■ 56 production employees	25-28
<b>Legacy Emanuel Hospital</b> (Portland) SEIU Local 49 ■ 22 behavioral health assistants	20-0
<b>Rightline Equipment</b> (Rainer) Boilermakers Local 104 ■ 48 welders, fitters, press operators at forklift attachment manufacturer	6-43
<b>PeaceHealth Sacred Heart</b> (Springfield) OFNHP/AFT 5017 ■ 352 medical techs in 51 occupational classifications	221-64