

"Training" – From Page 17

Madras Area:

Level One:

June 17 and 24 (Tues. 6-9 P.M.)

July 2 and 9 (Wed. 6-9 P.M.)

Training will take place at Jefferson County Extension Service Conf Rm 34 – SE "D"

Klamath Falls Area:

Level One

July 11- 12 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 12 Noon)

August 1 - 2 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 12 Noon)

Training location TBA. Contact the OPEU Eugene Field Office at 1-800-521-3446.

Eugene Area:

Level One:

July 25 - 26 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 12 Noon)

July 27 - 28 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 12 Noon)

Eugene Area:

Level Two:

August 6 - 26 (Every Tues. 6-9 P.M.)

Training location TBA. Contact the OPEU Eugene Field Office at 1-800-521-3446.

Grants Pass Area:

Level Two:

August 13 - 27 (Wed. 6-9 P.M.)

Training will take place at SDS Conference Room, 2166 NW Vine, Grants Pass.

Bend Area:

Level Two:

August 8 - 9 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 12 Noon)

August 15 - 16 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 12 Noon)

Training location TBA. Contact OPEU Eugene Field Office at 1-800-521-3446.

Salem Area:

Level One:

June 26 (Thur. 6-9 P.M.)

July 1 - 29 (Every Tues. 6-9 P.M.)

August 22 - 23 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.)

"Welfare" – From Page 17

that leads to big corporate subsidies and the looting of the common wealth.

The authors paint a compelling portrait of public policy turned on its head. They do not, however, fall back on the libertarian model, as the Cato Institute has done in their examination of public subsidies. Instead, Zepezauer and Naiman provide an economic analysis which looks at why public subsidies are necessary and what criteria we need to ensure that dollars reach their intended targets.

But the real pleasure to be found in *Take the Rich Off Welfare* is in browsing through the various categories of pork and turning up a real gem like the ghoulish payday Wal-Mart found.

EEK COLI!

To encourage workers to sign up for the insurance, Wal-Mart offers them other free benefits. They'll even continue to pay for the policy after you leave the company.

Now you're probably feeling a little confused. Why should Wal-Mart offer additional inducements to get employees to sign up for free insurance? And why in the world would they continue coverage for people who no longer work for them?

The answer's very simple. When an employee dies, Wal-Mart – not the employee's heirs – collects \$60,000! Out of that, they give the heirs \$5,000 – about 8%...This boondoggle is called corporate-owned life insurance, or COLI. It's designed to avoid taxes by taking advantage of the fact that life insurance proceeds are tax-free. In 1994, Wal-Mart used COLI to save \$36 million in taxes; in 1995, they saved an estimated \$80 million...(you have to read the book to find out how Wal-Mart also pays nothing on the \$1 billion of insurance premiums this scheme involves).

September 9 - 29 (Every Tues. 6-9 P.M.)

October 24 - 25 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.)

November 14 - 15 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.)

Salem Area:

Level Two:

June 27 - 28 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.)

July 25 - 26 (Fri. 6-9 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.)

August TBA

Trainings will take place at OPEU Headquarters at 1730 Commercial St. SE, Salem.

Take the Rich Off Welfare also offers an abundance of resources at the back of the book. Included is a glossary of tax and financial terms for the novice, a full bibliography of sources and listings of recent books, reports and web sites looking at tax breaks.

Zepezauer and Naiman have provided the activist and the concerned citizen with ample ammunition to counter the argument that we can't afford government that looks after the needy. In doing so, they amply prove that we cannot much longer afford government which channels the national wealth to the top 3% of the nation.

Wizards of Media Oz by Norman Soloman and Jeff Cohen; \$25 advance order from Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting.

This is the latest in a long line of books by Soloman and Cohen analyzing the dire condition of America's media. *Wizards of Media Oz* brings readers up to date on telecommunications mergers, hate-talk radio, and privatization of public television.

Soloman and Cohen also reveal what's behind the facades of media icons like Colin Powell, Ted Koppel and Bill Gates. The book also includes the winners of the "P.U.-liter Prizes, dubious achievement awards that journalists don't crow about."

Like their earlier works, *Adventures in Medialand* and *Through the Media Looking Glass*, *Wizards of Media Oz* contains relevant and funny cartoons by Tom Tomorrow and Matt Wuerker. This issue also contains a special "Media Jeopardy" game you probably won't see on television.

Wizards of Media Oz is currently available only through Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR) at P.O. Box 170, Congers, NY 10920-9930.

Executive PayWatch

A new AFL-CIO web site reveals what goes on behind closed boardroom doors – and how it can be stopped. Executive PayWatch exposes out-of-line executive pay, like the \$39.8 million John Welch was paid as CEO of General Electric last year. *That's a salary that would take the average worker 1,612 years to earn.* The site also contains guides to finding and using shareholder proxy statements, and a "FightBack" room where viewers can fire off e-mail letters to Congress or the Securities and Exchange Commission. Check out Executive PayWatch at;

www.paywatch.org