



*Before the union, longshoremen lived
marginal lives, subjected to subsistence
pay and unsafe working conditions.
In 1934 all that would change.*

The Men Along the Shore and the Legacy of 1934

San Francisco Public Library

July 11-August 31

Reception July 16, 5-7 pm

Historical Exhibit by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union

The Men Along the Shore and the Legacy of 1934

San Francisco Public Library, July 11– August 31

100 Larkin Street, 6th Floor

San Francisco CA 94102-4733

(415) 557-4400

Reception July 16, 5-7 pm

Richard Bermack, exhibit designer, and Robin Walker, exhibit curatorial consultant and assistant ILWU librarian.

Sponsored by ILWU Local 10 Educational Committee.

August 1, 2-5 pm

Films about the ILWU; discussion of labor unions' importance in preserving the American dream.

Local 10 International Committee Rep. Mike Villeggiante.

August 22, 2-5 pm, "Bloody Thursday to the Present"

Solidarity Stories: An Oral History of the ILWU, by

Harvey Schwartz; film premiere of *Bloody Thursday*

by Jack Baric; discussion of Employee Free Choice Act.



San Francisco Public Library

The Men Along the Shore and the Legacy of 1934

An historical exhibit by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union commemorating the 75th anniversary of one of the most important series of events in labor history, the Pacific Coast Maritime Strike and the San Francisco General Strike.

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100 Larkin Street, 6th floor

San Francisco CA 94102-4733

For information about the library and events (415) 557-4400

For information about the content of the exhibit or media interviews, email Richard Bermack: rbermack@gmail.com

July 11– August 31

Reception July 16, 5-7 pm

Commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the 1934 General Strike

Exhibit designer Richard Bermack and Exhibit Curatorial Consultant and Assistant ILWU Librarian Robin Walker

Music by Allegra Broughton and Solid Air

Reception sponsored by ILWU Local 10 Educational Committee

August 1, 2-5 pm

Films by and about the ILWU: *We Are The ILWU*, *The Eye of the Storm* and *May Day 2008*.

Discussion about the contribution of labor to the American standard of living and way of life, by Local 10 International Committee Representative Mike Villeggiante.

August 22, 2-5 pm Bloody Thursday to the Present

Harvey Schwartz, author of *Solidarity Stories: An Oral History of the ILWU*

Film premiere of *Bloody Thursday* with documentary filmmaker Jack Baric

The Union Today and the Relevance of the Employee Free Choice Act. ILWU speaker to be announced.

The Legacy of 1934

At the beginning of the 20th Century, employers launched an all-out campaign to crush the labor movement. Union organizers were portrayed as un-American in the media, and union members were subjected to a reign of terror, including vigilante violence, mass arrests, deportations, and lynchings. Radical union leaders were driven underground and many workers were forced to join company unions.

In 1934 the workers fought back. In May, maritime workers went on strike, shutting down the entire west coast. A new labor movement was born. It was a birth paid for in blood. Police and vigilantes opened fire on strikers and demonstrators, killing and wounding workers in Seattle, San Francisco, San Pedro and Portland. Today we honor the two workers slain in San Francisco on July 5, 1934—known forever as *Bloody Thursday*.

This unique display of historical photographs, graphic arts, newspapers, artifacts and documents was commissioned by the ILWU's Longshore Division to portray the origins of the union in the historic 1934 strike. The exhibit took a year to produce. Materials were gathered from the ILWU library in San Francisco and Union sources in San Pedro, Seattle, Tacoma, and Portland. These materials were combined with resources collected from museums, historical societies, public libraries, universities, and the personal collections of ILWU members.

The exhibit pays tribute to those who struggled and gave up their lives so that future generations could live in a more just world and enjoy the fruits of their labor.

From the Exhibit Catalog

Gene Vrana, Project Director

Richard Bermack, Producer and Designer

Robin Walker, Curatorial Consultant

Harvey Schwartz, Historical Consultant