

DISCOUNTS for SFBMA Members are available at the following places. Patronize these friendly establishments! And look for Cognition at these hot spots! The following bike shops give 10% discount on parts to SFBMA members:

- Big Swingin' Cycles, 1122 Taraval, SF, 415-661-2462 (also 10% discount on labor)
- Road Rage Bike Rental and Repair, 1063 Folsom, SF, 415-255-1351 (also 15% discount on labor)
- Freewheel Bike Shop, 1920 Hayes St., SF, 415-752-9195 and 980 Valencia, SF, 415-643-9213
- Pedal Revolution, 3075 21st St., 415-641-1264
- Cycle Sports, 3241 Grand, Oakland, 510-444-7900 (also 10% discount on labor)
- Missing Link, 1988 Shattuck, 510-843-7471, 1963 Shattuck, Berkeley 510-843-4763

Other Established friendly(s)

- Cassidy's Bar, 1145 Folsom, SF, 415-241-9990— \$2 beer specials M-F, 6-8 pm for working messengers 21& over
- The Sports Basement, 1301 6th St., SF, 415-437-1415
- XS Bar, 622 Polk St. \$1.50 Pabst for messengers
- Downtown Dawgs @ The Wall, 1/2 price hot dogs, & 75 cent drinks and cookies and brownies \$1.
- Hotel Utah Saloon, 500 4th St., SF, 415-546-6300 Happy Hour Specials and SFBMA band friendly

SFBMA GOODIES LONG SLEEVE & SHORT SLEEVE T-SHIRTS AND HOODIES.... BLACK ON RED AND RED ON BLACK.

THANKS TO CHARBO FOR PAYING A BUNCHA DUES! YOU GUYS ROCHK! DUES ARE PAYABLE TO YOUR OFFICERS. RECEIVE A FREE PATCH WHEN YOU PAY HALF-YEAR (\$25) AND A FREE T-SHIRT WHEN YOU PAY A FULL-YEAR (\$50)

49 Mile ride
photo: Michael Klein



dirty hair

COGNITION is the newsletter of the San Francisco Bike Messenger Association, an organization dedicated to the improvement of work conditions for SF's Messenger industry.

S F B M A
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San Francisco, CA 94103
415-626-1912

Our Offices are located at 255 Ninth Street.
Our home page is at: www.sfbma.org
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR FEBRUARY

WED 2/12
THURS 2/13

CHARLES DARWIN'S BIRTHDAY BENEFIT FOR THE BIKE HUT. SPOT 1019, VIKTER VESEY EXPERIENCE @ STUDIOZ.TV NEXT THURS STUDIOZ.TV - THE OLD TRANS MISSION THEATER, NEXT TO PARADISE LOUNGE, ACROSS THE STREET FROM SLIMS ON 11TH ST. \$8 COVER

FRI. 2/14

SF INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL SCREENING 2:15PM ROXIE CINEMA, 3117 16TH STREET AT VALENCIA VALETBIKE PARKING PROVIDED BY THE SFBC TICKETS ARE \$8.50, \$6 FOR MATINEES. WWW.SFINDIE.COM

FRI. 2/14

VALENTINE'S DAY BIKE BASH, 6-9 PM, CAFE DU NORD. FREE FOR SFBC MEMBERS, \$7 FOR NON-MEMBERS.

SAT 2/15

SUN. 2/16

CHINESE NEW YEAR PARADE 5:30 PM, MARKET & SECOND STREET. SAN FRANCISCO PEACE MARCH. ACTION OFFICIALLY BEGINS @ JUSTIN HERMAN PLAZA, 11AM. SFBMA MEMBERS MEET AT HUBBAHIDE OUTBTWN 10:30-10:45. FULLMOON.

SUN. 2/16
WED. 2/19

UNPAID OVERTIME! MEETING AT THE ILWU UNION HALL, 255 9TH STREET, 6:30 PM. SEPTIC. OTHER BANDS PLAYING @ KIMO'S JOE STRUMMER TRIBUTE! 20-MIN SETS FROM ONE MAN ARMY, THE SICK, FLESHIES AND OTHERS, 9:30 PM, BOTTOM OF THE HILL. \$8.

SAT. 2/22
SAT. 3/8

SFBMA GENERAL MEETING NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR THE APRIL ELECTIONS FULLMOON.

THU. 3/14

TUE. 3/18
THU. 3/20
SAT. 3/23

FIRST DAY OF SPRING. AT LONG LAST! ANOTHER SFBMA FILM FESTIVAL. WE'VE GOT NEW FILMS AND SOME OLD FAVORITES. PLUS A SPECIAL ROUND OF THE GOLD SPRINT SERIES. MARK YOUR CALENDAR. BECAUSE SEATS WILL GO FAST! CESAR CHAVEZ DAY PARADE AND FESTIVAL. 11AM, MAIN AND MARKET. MARCH W/ SOLIDARITY & FELLOW WORKING PEOPLE

SUN. 3/24

ONGOING EVENTS:
SFBC VOLUNTEER NIGHT EVERY WEDNESDAY, 5-9 PM, IN THE SFBC OFFICES 1095 MARKET ST, SUITE 208 (@ 7TH) CALFEE@SFBBIKE.ORG.
CRITICAL MASS 5:30PM, EVERY LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH. JUSTIN HERMAN PLAZA BERKELEY/EASTBAY CRITICAL MASS 5:30 PM, THE SECOND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH. GATHER AT THE DOWNTOWN BERKELEY BART. DEPART AT 6 PM.



COGNITION

RIGHTS AND RELATIONS BY CAREY DALL

Yesterday when I got back to Western to do my tags, a coworker of mine was moping around sullen and pissed off. Earlier in the afternoon, his bike had been hit by a truck while locked to a meter and his back wheel was barely recognizable as a result. The front wheel was also out of true, and the frame was questionable. So he had ample reason for fury. Yet, if our beloved company were adhering to the California state labor code, my coworker would only have the inconvenience of having to replace the parts to be upset about; the burden of paying for it would be the responsibility of Western. State law says that equipment used on the job must be provided by the employer, or reimbursed at a fair rate. It also says employees have a right to time and a half when they work overtime, and state law poses strict guidelines for what kinds of employment conditions allow employers to impose independent contractor status on employees. These are all laws that most messenger companies in the Bay Area have been breaking for decades. And it's the messengers who are getting fucked out of the cash. So on a typically cold and overcast morning in late November of last year, thirty odd messengers gathered at the state building on Golden Gate. We were there to tell the California Labor Commissioner that at least five messenger companies in San Francisco were screwing their messengers to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars per year. At our rally we had sizeable backup from ILWU Local 6, as well as political allies such as Chris Daly and a representative from Senator John Burton's office. At the end of the rally, about 15 of us crammed into an elevator (which nonetheless still smelled better than the mechanic's statue) and got up to the Labor Commissioner's office to

file our claims. We chanted "no more sweatshops on wheels" to get the attention of the investigators, and then we were off to work. Thanks to the ILWU and Walter Johnson at the AFL-CIO Labor Council, so much political pressure was put on the Labor Commissioner and the Bureau of Field Enforcement (BOFE) that by early December messengers who had filed were meeting with an investigator. The process was moving faster than we could have imagined. And on Monday of this week, two former Western Messenger employees had hearings at the state building with Western management and the Labor Commissioner. Both had claims in the ballpark of \$7,000 for unpaid overtime and equipment compensation. Both had worked at Western for about 6 months. Western preferred to pay them off on the spot instead of going through the hearing process - which would have cost them a lot of money in legal fees. Both settled for \$4,500. And we have many more of these hearings on the horizon. Current and past employees at Western, First Legal, Special T, King and others will be sitting down with their bosses to get what they've been fucked out of for the past three years. The state will not allow the current exploitation which we experience to go on anymore, and our companies will have to become fully legal. To do this, they will have to raise tag prices which are generally notoriously low in San Francisco. Folks who want to file a claim against their company, or who want to help plan our upcoming strategy should come to the ILWU Union Hall at 255 9th street on Wednesday February 19th at 6:30 pm. It's time to get what's ours!! And we have many more of these hearings on the horizon. Current and past employees at Western, First Legal, Special T, King and others will be (cont'd page 3)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2002: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

BY HOWARD WILLIAMS
INTERIM PRESIDENT OF THE SFBMA

The year 2002 was better than 2001. Most of us agree on that. It's hard to be worse than a year in which planes fly into buildings. But was the year better because things really got better and provided more opportunities for further improvement or was it better because we just sort of muddled through a calm before some even more stormy years? Time will tell. Here's a review of 2002 after which you can draw your own conclusions.

2002 was the first palindrome year since 1991 but the last until 2112. Most of us will not make that one but Ted Williams might. Sorry Red Sox fans I couldn't resist that one. Hey maybe the Sox will win a World Series by then! Sorry I couldn't resist that one either. And that's all I'll say about World Series.

The year started off with America feeling somewhat relieved and confident that Al Qaeda had been contained though not yet eliminated. Much of that security was earned by American air power in the skies over Afghanistan. But much of that security was also from the efforts of Afghans fighting the Taliban and Al Qaeda on the ground. So how did we repay our Muslim friends without oil? Well we haven't. The administration made much noise about rebuilding Afghanistan but when the bill was assessed for at least \$10 billion and probably more like 30 or 50 we asked Europe and Japan to pick up the tab so we could move on to the next cause du jour. But the plan to build an oil pipeline through there is still very much on. Needless to say this only adds weight to the argument that American administrations only use our allies for as long as we need them. Sometimes not even that long. We may need the Afghans yet again as Pakistan drives down the extremist road carrying nuclear bombs in its trunk. Anti- (cont'd page 2)



BOOK REVIEW: "WHEN YOU RIDE ALONE YOU RIDE WITH BIN LADEN"

BY BILL MAHER. PAGES, ILLUSTRATED,

REVIEWED BY HOWARD

book. Every American who still thinks it's OK to drive two blocks for a six pack needs to read this book. This even includes the people who are getting that six pack for ME! And those of us who don't waste gasoline or other natural resources — except hops and barley malt — should read this book so that we can educate others. Some people still don't think there's such a thing as a Home Front in the war against Al Qaeda. Look at it this way : Next time some upper middle class Saudi with a self esteem problem steers a 747 into a building it just might be the one that YOU'RE making a delivery to.

"Bill Maher's book brings up many issues that need to be a dressed.His analysis doesn't always score and sometimes he's just plain wrong but he deserves mega props for putting them out there. Especially since nobody else is.

** Since 9/11 the Right has declared just about everything beyond questioning. It was in response to Mr. Maher's suggestion that suicide bombers might have some guts that Bush's spokesman Ari Fleischer warned that Americans should watch what "they" say. (Notice that the Right winger referred to Americans as "they" not "we" — but that's a topic for another article.) And since 9/11 the Left— oh the Left, the Left — do they enjoy losing or are they just soured to it that they're scared to try something new? Let's just note that the issues that Maher is raising are NOT being a dressed by the Left. The terrorist attacks of 9/11 demand a serious and concrete review of our way of life not just the usual outdated Leftist rants.

As if to level the playing field of the post 9/11 political debates, George Bush has decided to add a sequel to an outdated war while we're already at war against Al Qaeda. But it has been Centrists like Bill Maher who have asked in practical terms if our way of life just might be too extravagant — and ultimately dangerous. He notes the context of corporations seeking off-shore tax havens in wartime. Has ANYBODY on the Left done so? When Maher says "We are bogarting the earth" (referring to Americans' consumption of 30% of the planet's resources) he means WE —as in all of us in the USA. The Left seems to imply that only wealthy Americans do that. The Right seems to think that 30% isn't enough.

As I stated, not all of the book is on target. He repeats the common error that US armed forces overthrew the Taliban. That's not exactly true. Our bombing campaign was an indispensable part of the defeat of the Taliban. But until

cities and forts float in the air, the grunts on the ground are the ones who have to take them. After the US air campaign weakened the enemy it was the Afghans themselves who routed the Al Qaeda/Taliban forces from their strongholds. In consideration of the book's calls for Americans to know more about the rest of the world and for moderate Muslims to take action against the likes of Al Qaeda ,this error about a



poor but important country deserves mention.

Like "Earth in the Balance" — Al Gore's best seller about the environmental crisis — Maher's book never mentions the word "bicycle".His plan for combatting gasoline waste is car pooling. Nothing bad about that but what about bikes, fuel cells and public transit?

Maher's worst error is a comment on one page that "people are sheep." This remark is so contrary to the book's theme of citizen responsibility that it almost leaps off the page.

The sometimes glaring errors make the book a bit uneven but over all, "When you ride ALONE you ride with bin Laden" scores more hits than misses. The hits — and even a few of the misses — make you laugh,think or get angry. And with only 81 pages of text you can easily read it in a couple hours and then make it a present for a misguided friend or relative who still drives too much.

* I apologize for ending a sentence with a preposition. I promise it won't happen again.**

I apologize for writing an incomplete sentence. It won't happen again. Promise. Doh!

When you ride ALONE you ride with bin Laden" is the new book by comedian and commentator Bill Maher, former host of ABC TV's "Politically Incorrect" and future host of HBO's "Real Time with Bill Maher". The book is thought provoking and often funny though a little uneven. Maher's blunt with his opinions and everybody (including me)will get offended at some part of the book.. In other words the book is just like its author. Fans of his TV shows will notice that the book's words almost sound like Bill's talking to them. And his bluntness is mellowed by humor and sincerity.

The book is 132 pages of which 81 are text. Most of the rest are illustrations that Mr. Maher hopes the US Government will make into posters for the Home Front in the war against terrorism. My guess is that the government will open a secret file on him — if they haven't already. Maher doesn't seem to expect that the government will actually get serious about civilian help in the war against Al Qaeda but he certainly wants all Americans to realize that there IS a Home Front. And it doesn't involve sucker punching the corner grocer,just because he's from a country most of us can't find on a map. The book explores the responsibilities of American civilians in the war against terrorism. The book's title refers to an illustration based on the World War II era poster "When you ride ALONE you ride with Hitler". During that war conserving gas meant there was more for the war effort against Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan. Wasting gas denied it to American troops under fire from the enemy. As Maher points out, now when you waste gas you're financing Bin Laden. As you might guess this is one of my favorite illustrations in the book.

Now before I start picking apart "When you ride ALONE you ride with bin Laden" let's get one thing understood: This is an important

Messenger Dictionary!

by P.L. Atypus, MD

In the spirit of ironic things that fall into your lap, and foreign policies, I have compiled a short list of bike related words in German! Sorry there are no examples of them in action because of *ded letztertermin* (deadline). So sit back and *vergnügen* (enjoy).

advance: vorrücken	spill: verschütten
ass: esel	tag: anhängen
bicycle: fahrrad	tattoo: tätowierung
cable: kabel	track: fährte. (These are real words.)
evil: übel, böse. (It could come up, when talking about a lady friend!)	velocity: geschwindigkeit
flat: wäsche	weed: unkraut
repair: reparieren	witness: zeuge
ride: fahrt. (I wouldn't lie about that.)	wobble: schwanken.

These could also be band names if you ain't got one yet.

Inspired by "The Pedaller's A-Z" on www.bikereader.com
<http://www.bikereader.com/>, used with permission of Bike

shit... Houston was tons of fun.

It was low on the attendance tip but that was good cause it gave some time to get to know people. Portland did an essay contest entitled "What does Texas mean to you?". Hiske and Tullah (from Copeland) won with a cute little rhyme. They even asked me to correct the spelling errors. I think it's amazing they made a rhyme in their second language! Neal (from Dublin) came running up to me to tell me he was going to win because "the Irish are writers" but I put the kybosh on that thinking when I told him how good the Danes' poem was. Imagine everyone's delight when we found out our hosts had mechanical bull riding and a lasso machine at one of the parties. One of the locals taught me a lasso technique so Nikilla (from Las Vegas) and I practiced it for some time and got pretty decent. Dannyboy (from San Fran) instigated a freestyle skid

competition outside the Welcome Party right before the alley cat. They had so much fun they also had one after the finals. The race-course included a live traffic intersection. Sure, it was controlled by a dude with a flag but it was still cool to have it. The course was as fucked as all of Houston's roads: They had train tracks, loose dirt areas with glass and HUGE potholes. I think everyone got a flat. I have never seen such large potholes in my life!!! The Chrome Bags rep fell into one and jacked his face all up...that is, after he was rescued from the other side of the earth. I swear, that's how big they are. Oh, another great little aspect was the 'boot camp' checkpoint. I guess if you screwed up at a checkpoint you were sent to boot camp. They gave Neal the pleasure of being drill sergeant; they also gave him a little megaphone. He spent the whole day screaming into people's ears while they ran through tires, did push-ups and hopped over barrels. The thing that really sticks out in my mind (besides turning

down the wrong street and getting chased by wild dogs) is people's reactions to the course. It seemed as though every american was complaining about one thing or another while all the Europeans thought it was great to have the challenge. Judith

Max (from NYC) and I talked a bit about how americans just seem to complain about everything more than anyone else. Oh yeah, the winners: Thad from Portland won men's and Maria from Seattle won women's but a Houston local managed to nab all the fixie titles like skids and track stands. He was really good I wish I could remember his name.

-Mishka
 "You're not supposed to be so blind with patriotism that you can't face reality. Wrong is wrong, now matter who says it." -Malcolm X

POP QUIZ!! ANSWERS FROM ISSUE #35



DEC '02 POP QUIZ!!#2
 ROBERT IS KNOWN FOR HIS DYNAMIC SMILE. DID HE EVER HAVE TO WEAR BRACES OR OTHER SUCH DENTIFRICE TO GET SUCH GREAT RESULTS??
 IS HE A NATURAL?
ANSWER: OF COURSE HE IS!

DEC '02 POP QUIZ!! #1
 A GOOD OUTFIT TAKES A KEEN EYE. ACCESSORIES CAN BE KEY. RALPH SOMETIMES WEARS BIKE GLOVES FOR SPORT AND PLEASURE. HOW MANY PAIRS AND WHAT COLOR ARE THEY?
ANSWER: NOBODY KNOWS! RALPH PREFERS TO KEEP THIS INFORMATION PRIVATE



! NEW POP QUIZ!!

FEB '03 POP QUIZ!!#1

SOMEBODY IN THIS PICTURE GETS TO WEAR A SPECIAL HAT THESE DAYS. CAN YOU GUESS WHO AND WHAT KIND OF HAT? ANSWER IN THE NEXT COGNITION

FEB '03 POP QUIZ!!#2

WHO THE HELL ARE THESE WOMEN IN THIS PHOTO AND WHY ARE THEY IN COGNITION EVERY SINGLE ISSUE SINCE WHO KNOWS WHEN? ANSWER IN THE NEXT COGNITION

SPECIAL QUIZ: WHEN THEY WERE TOTS!



WERE TOTS!

CAN YOU NAME THE KID TO THE MESSENGER?
MATCH THE PHOTO TO THESE SPECIAL SOMEBODIES:
DAMON, CATHY, LIL CHRIS, & NOSMO!
BONUS QUESTION: IF IT WEREN'T FOR THIS GUY THE POODLE IN THE BACKGROUND WOULD BE DEAD BY NOW. WHO?

FUCK BUSH'S WAR- by Sabrina

For those of you who were too hung over to make it to the anti-war march on January 18th, it was definitely an experience to be had. Although banner-less, the SFBMA did have a small but determined contingent present. As far as overall body count, I've heard numbers from our oh-so-objective Chronicleis: 50,000 people all the way out to an event organizer's estimation of 300,000. In reality it seemed more like the latter. With people continually swarming into the march from all sides it took us over two hours to make it past The Wall from the water.

What was so beautiful was the range of people there. From the to be expected Green-Party banner toting groups walking along side super-conservative looking types. A few dramatists had a get-up that showed a U.S. soldier being marionetted around on money-laced strings by Bush Jr. who in turn had Big Oil as his puppeteer. My personal favorite, however was this one, lone, Mr. Burns-looking guy carrying a sign reading "Retired bureaucrat for peace." He was proud to be there. I was proud to be there. The whole thing was exhilarating. It's good to know that there are all kinds of people who are against what hell the Bush administration is trying to drag us into.

There is going to be another demonstration w/ an even larger predicted turnout on Saturday, February 15th. It will begin at 11am at Justin Herman Plaza. The SFBMA met at the Hubba-Hide-Out @ around 10:30-10:45 last time & although this is not official, you can probably bet on meeting us there again on the 15th. Or just show up. That is what is important. Just be there.



photo: atomica media



photo: atomica media

PRESIDENT'S REPORT THE YEAR IN REVIEW

CONT'D FROM P. 2

set the tone for the news of the business year as more and more of our financial and social "superiors" were shown to be crooks, liars and – in the case of some oil companies – in with our "moderate" Saudi "allies". Even Martha Stewart was guilty of bad taste if not insider trading. The accounting fiasco threatened the foundations of Big Corporatism itself sending stocks into the toilet. So when an investigation started at Deloitte Touche it quietly was relegated to the back pages. Exposing the whole system instead of just its more blatant offenders would be in bad taste. As Martha might say. The government applied a few band aids to the problem and has already started pulling them off. The problem is that Corporatism requires more and more growth for growth's sake just to stay alive. The economy is like what Woody Allen once said about relationships and sharks: It must keep moving or it'll die. And



photo: courtesy of Mike Crane

good Catholics and have been hurt enough so that's all I'll say about that. Excepting to add that the fish doesn't always rot from the head but the head will stink too if it doesn't do something about that rot.

There were scandals in the Winter Olympics ice skating competition, and in a tribute to the woman who set the standard for Olympic ice skating scandals, Willie Brown gave Tonya Harding a tour of City Hall. I'll bet she never once slipped on those slick floors.

Lance Armstrong provided some positive sports news with yet ANOTHER Tour de France victory – his 4th in a row.

The Raelian cult in Florida (has this state replaced ours as the World's Largest Open Air Asylum?) claimed to have cloned the world's first human. But the whole thing looks more and more like a hoax. The cult claims to be a religion that doesn't believe in God. They believe that space aliens are our creators. That would explain some Floridians.



Longshore workers were locked out by their employers on the West Coast in the biggest threat against the America's strongest union in recent years. It didn't work. In South Carolina criminal charges against the Charleston 5 Longshore workers were dropped by the state, and the right wing Attorney General who tried that scam failed to become Governor. The SFBMA was one of the first to come to the aid of the Charleston 5. We can take a small bow on that one.

The right wing started the year by telling us that kids smoking Humboldt Homegrown were funding Bin Laden. And some people really believed it !! What the hell were THEY taking and where can I get some?!

Then the right wing tried telling us that we needed to drill oil in our Alaskan wilderness because SUV drivers just can't help themselves. Alaska's right wing Senator (now Governor) Frank Murkowski admitted that every time an American buys gas money goes to terrorists. Well DUH! But instead of appealing to the conservative virtue of personal responsibility and getting Americans to stop wasting gasoline, the right wingers tried to use this fact as an excuse to open up Alaska to the same oil companies doing business in Saudi Arabia. Like oil companies are just gonna pack up and leave the sunny – and profitable – shores of the Gulf just cuz they got another deal elsewhere.



Relativism still lives in the post 9/11 era and the right wingers are feeding it and feeding off it. The Senate junked the Alaska oil deal last year but watch out for another attack again this year. But on the issue of buying gas to fund Bin Laden, the shoe's on the other foot now. Former GOP stalwart Arianna Huffington and others have noted the connection between oil and terrorism and are urging Americans to conserve gas so that we can conserve America. This may be the year that right wingers finally choose: You're either with America or you're with the oil companies.

In our community, the right wing attacked too. The IC scam accelerated and the clock's getting turned back to the 80s when companies charged for radios, uniforms and any other item they could squeeze from our paychecks. We're fighting back with help from our union. The union effort is reviving again and not a moment too soon. We'll need all the guts we use on the job to gain what we have deserved for so long. And let's not forget that others who are no longer with us have fought for those rights as well. We owe ourselves – and we owe them.

Last May SF Chronicle columnist Debra Saunders stated that the Bay Area is a place where "40 year old bike messengers think *he* is stupid." "He" in this case being George W. Bush. When challenged on that she denied that she was implying that we're stupid but she wouldn't – or couldn't – explain what the italics were for. Nor would she identify any 40 year old messengers who allegedly accused Bush of being stupid. Coming from someone who wrote a piece in which she identified as a cutesy-wutesy oil drilling platform (I am NOT making this up) and another essay urging that we drill oil in Alaska "for the children" (so that they too can identify as cutesy-wutesy heavy metal equipment?) messengers can take such a jibe as a compliment. So we're sending this article to her home address. Looks like we know more about her than she knows about us.

We lost Alicia Bernowitz and John Loyd last year. Both passed away too soon. They died as they lived, with an understated yet vivacious dignity, and without any of the self destructiveness that had so awesomely ravaged our community before we began fighting for our rights. Our honor in knowing them while they were here is exceeded only by our sadness at their untimely departures.

Party for your right to fight in '03.

RIGHTS AND RELATIONS BY CAREY DALL CONT'D FROM P. 1

sitting down with their bosses to get what they've been fucked out of for the past three years. The state gives us a tool to stop the rip-offs we have been experiencing and make our companies will become fully legal. It's up to us to take this tool and use it. Laws on the books don't do us any good until we push to have them enforced. Does your company owe

you for equipment maintenance or missed overtime or breaks? come find out what your rights are, learn how to file a claim and help plan our upcoming strategy. Meet us at the ILWU union hall at 255 9th street on Wednesday February 19th at 6.30 pm. It's time to get what's ours!! year, thirty odd messengersanies.