



# Late 20th-Century Labor History Videos

## Mileposts, Turning Points



### The Teamsters: Whose Union Is It?

In 2001 Ron Carey was found innocent of the charge that he knew about the money scam in the '96 Teamsters election. This video, made in 1998, pointed out then that Carey was removed without any

right to a trial. Video centers on the big UPS strike, Carey's removal, and the Hoekstra hearings in Congress. Includes interviews with Pete Camarata (TDU activist), Ken Paff (TDU), and others. Scenes from mass outdoor rallies with Carey and Sweeney. With narration. Length: 23 minutes. Order: **LB 301**



### Marchin' in the Street: Action! Motown '97

The giant 100,000-strong march and day of action in Detroit to support of the locked-out newspaper workers. Action footage, interviews, and narration provide additional background. Protests at the

Sterling Heights police department and at home of Detroit News CEO Frank Vega. Televised on Chicago PBS affiliate WTTW. Shows potential for mass labor action in our time. Order: **LB 274**



### Labor Party Convention '96 – History in the Making

We have the only video about the historic 1996 founding convention of the Labor Party in Cleveland. Presents key debates on whether to run candidates now, and other

convention dynamics. Also interviews, and 1,500 conventioners' protest at Cleveland City Hall in response to Democrat Mayor White's attacks on city workers. It has a long way to go to be a real party, but the founding convention was an important historic moment for U.S. labor movement. Order: **LB 248**



### SEIU – The Search for the Future

Compresses highlights and central issues of the 1996 SEIU Convention, showing transitions in progress as part of political shifts after Sweeney's election as AFL-CIO President. A microcosm of

the labor movement in 1996. Focuses on the fight for reform and democratizing SEIU, and on health care battles. Video delves into New York's Gus Bivona controversy and Chicago's SEIU 25 rank-and-file upsurge. Scenes from pre-convention debate with Robert Wages of Labor Party Advocates. 27 minutes. Order: **LB 243**

## Decatur: The War Zone Chronicles

The Study of the Illinois War Zone era is essential to grasping change from Kirkland to Sweeney era in AFL-CIO. This collection delves beneath surface actions, shows underlying forces at work. Rare footage. An insider's view.



### Showdown in Company Town

The historic June 25, 1994, Decatur IL rally for locked-out Staley workers and striking Caterpillar workers. The early stages of three unions uniting, and the beginnings of a political fight in City Hall. With action footage. Explores back-

ground to issues, labor militancy, police using peppermace, and the role of local government. **LB 197**



### The Gathering Storm

Begins with 7,000-strong march & street maneuvers on 10/15/94. Shows struggle evolving toward a third party/labor party strategy. Traces the battle with City Hall over picket shacks which leads to independent labor-community

political campaign to replace the city government. Interviews with key players. Shows political fight expanding to state politics, following a 2-day march to the state capitol and a sit-in at the Governor's office and Legislature. **LB 209**



### Our Class of People

6/24/95 Labor Conf. with UPIU, UAW and URW locals in Decatur, IL. Struggle impacts on leadership debate in AFL-CIO. 70 Decatur union members go to Bal Harbor, Florida, try to address the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

See first ever presence of actual workers at Exec. Council meeting! Tell Secretary of Labor Reich to his face Labor-Management schemes no good. Staley employees from Montreal in Decatur. Mike Griffin attends workers conference in Slovakia. Union candidates running for City Council. War Zone Labor Conference. 6/25/95; giant rally, President Dave Watts: "we're tired of dog and pony shows". **LB 221**



### It Could Have Been Won

Jan. '96 Madison, WI UPIU Local 1202-hosted forum to discuss the role of the United Paperworkers International Union and the AFL-CIO in the narrow vote of Decatur UPIU Local 7837 to accept A.E. Staley's contract offer. Speakers say it was a

battle that was winnable, if the International and the AFL-CIO had been committed to the struggle. Included: John Vellardita, Pres. UPIU 1202; Dave Watts, former Pres. UPIU 7837; Gary Lamb, Vice-Pres. UPIU 7837; Dick Schable, Staley worker; Mike Griffin, War Zone road warrior. **LB 238**

# An Unequaled Selection of Labor History Videos

*Labor Beat* occupies a special niche in documentary. Doing a cable-tv series covering labor news since 1987, we have amassed a great storehouse of important footage and reportage. Not dependent on grants from liberal foundations or any single international, we depend on the entire working class for our funds. And we ourselves are worker/videographers. These factors enable us to get closer to labor stories and closer to the actual, complex details as they emerge. Our videos are not recordings of talking heads in a studio, but aggressively follow the 'bouncing ball'. It's not just people talking about what happened, it's seeing it happen, the process, the actors in action. These are not high-price-spread PBS docs, whose big budgets often weigh them down in what they can say. Yet our videos are painstakingly edited under budgets close to zero, and we are proud of our craft.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

- "Labor Beat is the best known labor TV series on public access in the country"  
—Sally Alvarez, *Alliance for Community Media*
- First Prize – *Hometown USA*, National Association of Local Cable Programmers
- Visionary Award, Center for Alternative Television

## "All for One"— Dockers' Global Day of Action



**All for One.** In Jan, 1997, dockworkers (from Tokyo to San Francisco to Stockholm) staged actions in support of locked-out Liverpool dockworkers. Liverpool cranes occupied; port of Stockholm at standstill; protest at Tokyo port; interview with president

of Tokyo Docker's Union Council; ILWU protest at British Consulate in San Francisco as part of actions shutting down West Coast US ports. Labor videographers globally work together on this. **LB GV9**

## Commercial Media Labor Struggles: NABET & SAG/AFTRA Strikes



### Bummer in Fantasyland

In 1997 ABC forces NABET to work without a contract. Union fights back with a strike during a golf tournament. Footage of NABET 'merry pranksters' who visit ABC reporters while they're broadcasting live; a

San Francisco ABC reporter chases around a NABET supporter who holds a sign up during his report. Interviews and more.

**SAG/AFTRA Strike** Major, conditionally successful strike of acting community. Tim Kazurinsky [photo, right] and Studs Terkel testify at Chicago City Council hearings, seeking its support for SAG/AFTRA. Also Shelby Scott, AFTRA National President, others. *Both titles on one tape: LB SGN*



## Haymarket Affair: History Alive



### The Road to Haymarket

Chicago 1886 Haymarket Affair. Historical stills, dramatic re-enactments, more. Core event in American labor history. the only documentary around. **LB GV5**



### Trainwreck of Ideologies

'98 re-dedication of the Haymarket monument in Chicago. Poems, speeches, music, anarchists, and a fight breaks out. Passions over history. **LB 317**



### Teamster Victory Mural

Artist Mike Alewitz making Teamster UPS victory mural, incorporating Haymarket history, themes. Integrates history and current events. **LB 328**

For complete descriptions of videos: [www.laborbeat.org/lb/lhcoldesc.txt](http://www.laborbeat.org/lb/lhcoldesc.txt) (↵ click to launch browser).

## Order Form (videos are approx. 25 minutes long)

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I would like to order the following videotapes. The institutional price is \$30. For individuals or union locals: \$20. Please make check payable to *Labor Beat*, and mail to: **Labor Beat, 37 S. Ashland, Chicago, IL 60607.**

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