

The Vancouver & District Labour Council presents

# Songs of **Work & Struggle**

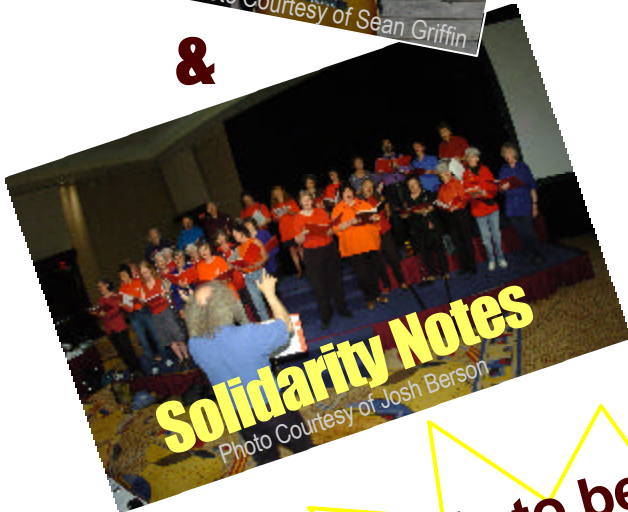
a celebration of labour history in words and music

Featuring

With  
Friends



&



## Saturday, June 16

**Maritime Labour Centre**  
**1880 Triumph Street**

## Admission \$10

**7:00 pm Doors**  
**7:30 pm Music**

**Proceeds to benefit  
Protein for People**  
a union program for the  
Greater Vancouver Food Bank

## **George Hewison:**



George Hewison and the Rank 'N File Band are currently on a cross Canada tour with their "Spirit of 37" labour history show.

George was raised in Campbell River in a labour family. He was singing on picket lines with his brother while still a teen, later becoming active in the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union, working as an organizer and eventually Secretary-Treasurer.

As 1st Vice-President of the Vancouver and District Labour Council, he headed the unemployed action committee and was a key leader in the 1983 Operation Solidarity struggle against the Social Credit government.

George has lived in Ontario since the mid-Eighties and has worked for a number of labour organizations researching and promoting labour music and culture and has continued that work ever since, the latest manifestation being the "Spirit of '37" tour.

The Rank 'N File Band emerged from a series of labour music seminars sponsored by the Canadian Autoworkers under Hewison's direction. Mark Bishop (jazz trombone/vocalist originally out of CAW Local 199 in St. Catherines, Ontario and now a full-time musician) and Bill Turner (keyboards/vocalist out of Chrysler Brampton CAW Local 1285 and education chair of his local) were in the original class of '92. Kevin Cassibo (bass and lead guitar and tech guru works at Edsha Canada, an automobile hinge factory) was in the class of '93.

## **The Diggers:**



The Diggers group consists of Regina Brennan, Dan Keeton and Earle Peach. Diggers performances weave song, narrative and graphic projection to tell labour's story through the ages. Initiated in 2001 by Brennan and Peach as the Labour History Project, this Vancouver-based group has performed upwards of 20 engagements for trade union events and coffee houses around British Columbia along with several in the United States.

Regina Brennan is a union representative with the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) BC office. Dan Keeton is a freelance labour writer and programmer for *Union Made*, a weekly hour-long labour affairs show on CRFO, Vancouver Co-op Radio. Earle Peach is a full-time musician, music teacher and composer. He conducts the Solidarity Notes Labour Choir and several community choirs and performs in several other groups.

## **Solidarity Notes:**



Solidarity Notes Labour Choir began in 2000, with the support of the Vancouver District Labour Council, as a small group of community and union activists wanting to combine a love of singing with a need for social justice. They are now 80 members strong, have an ever-expanding repertoire of songs from Beethoven to Desert Rat, distinctively arranged by conductor-musician-composer-activist, Earle Peach. They have performed for Fidel Castro in Cuba, with Utah Phillips at the Vancouver Folk Festival and have recently returned from performing at the Folklife Festival in Seattle. They are more commonly found on picket lines, at demonstrations, rallies, and memorials--any place they can contribute inspiration, support and beauty to the labour and social justice movements.