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Robert McLinn, President
Martin Beil, Executive Director

To: Scholarship Committee

From: Jana Weaver, Assistant Director

Date: July 13, 2009

Subject: Jim Boyd

Recently we have been asked, "Who was Jim Boyd?" Enclosed is a history of the Jim Boyd Memorial Scholarship Program written by Marty. This information is posted on our website and will be included in the convention book.

Any questions, feel free to contact me.

cc: Marty Beil, Executive Director
C-24 Executive Board
Field and Support Staff

**History of the
AFSCME Council 24
Jim Boyd Memorial Scholarship Program**

Jim Boyd was one of the more memorable charismatic leaders of the Wisconsin State Employees Union. Jim had been the president of Local 1005, Fox Lake Correctional Institution. He served on the Security and Public Safety Bargaining Team in 1979 and was elected to the council presidency that year. Jim had served as the vice-president of the Council since 1978.

Jim not only had the gift of gab, but also was usually the center of humor. He had the ability to diffuse tense situations through his sharp sense of humor. He was able to work with and establish relationships with all the varying interests and factions of the union. This was highly visible and came with a lot of hard work and consensus building on Jim's part.

Jim, in many ways, was larger than life. He did things in extreme and was incredibly enthusiastic about life. An issue that was of high interest to him was establishing a scholarship fund to "help our kids". Jim knew it would take money to establish a trust, so he began to raise funds by selling cigarette lighters printed with "Council 24", cribbage boards, and wooden clocks in the shape of Wisconsin. In spite of Jimmy selling hundreds of lighters, there still was not enough money to fund a scholarship. Jim's next venture was co-ed softball tournaments between local unions. Unfortunately, the only serious money transacted was at the beer tent, vying for the "Beer Drinking" trophy. In 1984, we held the first fundraising scholarship bowling tournament. We struggled and pushed and pulled to get 26 teams to participate. A very short time later, following Jim's untimely and sudden death, the scholarship program (and annual bowling tournament) was officially named the "Jim Boyd Memorial Scholarship" in his honor.

In 2009, we had the 26th annual Jim Boyd Memorial Scholarship bowling tournament. Some 89 teams participated and generated \$10,375.00 for the scholarship program. During the 26 years of the Jim Boyd Memorial Scholarship program, we have awarded 133 scholarships valued at \$238,250.00 to our kids and co-workers. Jim's dream is a reality. It is also important to mention that Mrs. Pat Boyd, Jim's widow, has attended and volunteered her time at each of these 26 tournaments.

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