TWO EARLY SUPPORTERS PASS

THE BRIDGES LABOR CENTER notes with sorrow the recent passing of two early supporters.

Val Swegel, Jr., who held membership in the Sailor's Union of the Pacific, the ILWU, and the Maritime Historical Society, passed away peacefully on August 21, 2007 at the age of 81. Val joined with other long-shore workers to create the Harry Bridges Endowed Chair in the early 1990s and then continued to contribute financially over the ensuing years. He also gave strong support and encouragement to all holders of the Bridges Chair.

Local historian Walt Crowley passed away on September 21, 2007. Author of eighteen books, most of which included keen analysis of local and regional labor movements, Walt gave eager support for the work done at HBCLS. As co-founder of HistoryLink.org, he made sure to include labor content in entries to the internet-based historical encyclopedia.