



**Class and Power on the New York Docks - BOOK PARTY this Tuesday Oct 28
at Stony Brook Manhattan**

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Bcc: F.Jason Torre

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PLEASE FORWARD TO INTERESTED PEOPLE

YOU ARE INVITED TO A BOOK PARTY FOR

Bill Mello and his new book *New York Longshoremen: Class and Power on the Docks*

This Thursday, October 28, 6 - 8 p.m.
Stony Brook Manhattan
401 Park Avenue South (at 28th St.), second floor
New York City

reminder

New York Longshoremen

Class and Power on the Docks
University Press of Florida, 2010
William J. Mello

"A superb history of labor on the East Coast waterfront that may be the best account we have, not only of the industry, but of any sector of labor relations. Mello combines a thoroughly researched discussion of the behavior of elites, employers, government, and union officials —with a story of the heroic resistance of rank-and-file dockers to the best laid plans of their adversaries." —Stanley Aronowitz, CUNY Graduate Center

There exists a hidden history of post-World War II New York and East Coast waterfront labor relations. During this era, dockworkers fought an ongoing battle against shipping companies, local police, federal and state political authorities, and their own corrupt union leadership.

New York Longshoremen reveals how labor relations on the docks were driven from below by radical and reform rank-and-file movements led by communists, Catholics, and local union leaders. William Mello uncovers this little-known history that depicts the impact of state and local politics and political institutions on the labor movement in postwar America. He looks at power and collective action, as well as institutional and social movements, specifically analyzing the intersection of labor and its impact on political development.

Interviews, meticulous examinations of newspaper accounts, official reports, rank-and-file newsletters, and oral histories establish the contours of Mello's work. This rich historical account illustrates how ordinary workers defied the combined powers of elites and sporadically imposed their will on labor relations.

Bill Mello grew up in Brazil, where he began his trade union activity as a metalworker. After moving to New York and becoming an ironworker, he held positions as shop steward, recording secretary, union staff secretary, and fund manager for Ironworkers Local 455. Mello has served as an instructor in the Labor Studies program at Empire State College-State University of New York, the Apprenticeship Program for International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 3, and the

Department of Liberal Studies at Parsons School of Design, New School University. He joined the Division of Labor Studies at Indiana University at Kokomo in 2003 and is now an associate professor in the program.

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