



General Teamster Retirees Club
Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters
Teamster Locals #38, #117, #174, #763
14675 Interurban Ave S • Tukwila, WA 98168
Suite 301
Phone 206 441-0504



April 2011 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Where:

Teamster Building (main floor)
14675 Interurban Avenue South, Tukwila
(on METRO bus Line #150)

When

Wednesday, April 13th
11:30 AM – Lunch
12:00-ish – Business Meeting

Special Guest: **Mr Bill Johnston: Retired staffer from UFCW, writer, political activist,**
Producer of labor programs for radio, organizing expert & critic

Lunch Menu: **Ham, Mac & cheese, veggies, salads, rolls, dessert, coffee**

Reservations: Call (206) 441-0504 by **Monday, April 11th** to reserve your place for lunch. The cost of lunch is only \$12.00. ***Be sure to call as soon as possible, because spaces are limited!***

Directions:

From Southbound I-5 take exist #156-Tukwila Interurban Avenue. Turn LEFT on Interurban Avenue South. Proceed south approximately 1 and ¼ miles. The Teamster Building will be on your right.

From Northbound I-5 take exit #156-Tukwila, Interurban Avenue. Take the Tukwila exit, turn right onto Interurban Avenue South and proceed south. Move into the right lane. The Teamster Building will be located approximately a mile and 1/2, on your right.

Message Bored...Er, I Mean "Board"

By now, most of us know that Mother Nature has decreed that living in a postcard paradise comes at a price...namely wet, erratic weather. At the imminent peril of incurring her considerable wrath however, let me say that so far, this year has been ridiculous!

The GTRC was represented by 6 of its board members at the annual **J.C. Council 28's** Labor-Management luncheon at the Catholic Seaman's Club on 1st avenue downtown. This year's event was emceed by J.C. President **John Williams**, and many prominent Politicians, current and retired were in attendance: former governors **Mike Lowry and Al Rossellini** (who is 101!); current gov. Christine Gregoire; several **Port of Seattle** Commissioners, judges, and Teamster leaders from around the state.

Williams gave a nice tribute to long time Washington Teamster editor, **Bill McCarthy**, who is retiring.

I almost forgot Seattle's mayor The Honorable **Mike McGuinn**...also known as "Bikey Mikey".

After lunch, there was a drawing and our very own **Willette Mitchell** won a Kindle!

To those of you who find out in time, we hope you can get down to Olympia on April 8th. The Teamsters, along with other unions and supporters, will be rallying to "**Stop the war on Workers!**" The retirees club will be there with our banner, and our creaky knees.

Our guest speaker, **Bill Johnston**, states in a recent article he wrote

"Organized labor by 1955 had bought into the "Me" society. Labor made a deal with business that they would not challenge growing economic **inequity** to the community as long as part of the growing wealth of big business came their way. Unions became much like the businesses they dealt with".

This guy really digs into why the union movement is in such dire straits today...You will definitely want to hear his message.

Our next Puget Sound Labor Agency pick up will be at the June luncheon.

Please note that the Teamster convention will be held this June in Las Vegas, and in 2012, the Democrats will gather for their national convention in Charlotte North Carolina, which has exactly zero union hotels, and is in a right-to-work state.

I thought these guys were the party of organized labor!?!

The Red Book Knows All

The following is taken from **the little red book**: How to beat a speeding ticket...

Fight the power, said Ed Henry and Ronaleen Roha in **Kiplinger's Personal Finance**. Though a speeding ticket can cost you between \$5 and \$1,000 in fines and boost your insurance premiums for up to 5 years, more than 50% of contested speeding tickets result in dismissal.

So contest.

In many traffic courts, if the officer doesn't show, you automatically win. A safe-driving course or plea bargain may also cut your losses.

For more rap-beating tips, log on to **Motorists.com**.

Editor's note: Another advantage we older Americans may have if called before a traffic judge is that we look more pathetic than the typical scumbags they see on a regular basis. It always helps to have a little dried oatmeal or toast crumbs on your shirt or blouse to elicit some judicial sympathy! Besides, we are more likely to have been pulled over for going 35 mph in the passing lane on the freeway.

Superbowl Tickets

A woman from Wisconsin had 50 yard line tickets for the Super Bowl. As she sat down, a man came along and asked her if anyone is sitting next to her.

"No," she said, "the seat is empty."

"This is incredible," said the man. "Who in their right mind would have a seat like this for the Super Bowl, the biggest sporting event in the world, and not use it?"

Somberly the woman says, "Well...the seat actually belongs to me. I was supposed to come here with my husband, but he passed away. This is the first Super Bowl we have not been to together since we got married in 1967."

"Oh I'm sorry to hear that, that's terrible. But couldn't you find someone else- a friend or relative or even a neighbor to take the seat?"

The woman shakes her head, "No, they're all at the funeral."

A couple of quickies...

***A doctor examining a woman who had been rushed to the Emergency Room, took the husband aside, and said, "I don't like the looks of your wife at all."

"Me neither doc," said the husband. "But she's a great cook and really good with the kids."

PUN ALERT: A vulture boards an airplane, carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion per passenger."

***A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.

***The soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.

*** There was the person who sent ten puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.

There will be a roll call at the April 13th luncheon, and you who do not answer will be considered AWOL!! Winding up in the brig is no picnic, so come on down and share prescription stories with someone. It will be like jumping in a bathtub of joy.

And, by the way, whatever happened to Preparations A through G??