



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



September 2011 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Where:

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

When

Wednesday, September 14th
11:30 AM – Lunch
12:00-ish – Business Meeting

Special Guest: Cheryl Russell-Passenger Manager
(U.S. Customs and Border Patrol)

Lunch Menu: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rice Pilaf, veggies, salads, roll and dessert

Reservations: Call (206) 441-0504 by **Monday, Sept. 12th** 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!***

Great Door Prizes! Free Books/Puzzles/Movies for upcoming long, dark Fall Days

Directions:

From Southbound I-5 take exit #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.

BACK TO ROUTINE

The **LABOR AGENCY** will stop by to collect our donations. I am donating two bags of clothing, and two bags of food. This is not a contest, but if you give more than me, that would be nice. As bad as things are in Africa, they are getting worse at home also. I would guess that all of us are experiencing a little “donor fatigue”, but when times are tough, union people always dig a little deeper.

Our August Golf tournament was a success, and the 50 plus golfers had a great time. The winner of the trophy was **Richard Kramer**, 14-year retiree from **Local 741** (Now 174). He retired from **Garrett Fast Freight**. Most of the GTRC board either played or volunteered help. Non-board members who assisted were **Noe Rendon, Dan and Kathy Maxwell, Rene Copeland, and Mike McBride**. Special thanks to **Ed Merritt** who was our untiring ramrod. We had 16 applications for scholarship (a record for us), and serves to point out the growing crisis in education funding. Even those students, who get financial help, will incur if they stay 4 years, an average **debt** of \$20,000!! We will announce the winners in the October newsletter.

One of our long time members died July 14th, or as his daughter put it “was promoted to heaven”. He was 4 months and 5 days away from his 100th birthday. Just a day before he checked out, he was still chasing the nurse aides down the hallway in his wheel chair. That would be **Helmer Leroy Peterson**, who had retired from **Tradewell** in 1974. He was put to rest in **Ferndale** at the **Bayview Cemetery**.

Keep your eyes posted for information regarding local **117’s** ongoing struggle with **Fred Myer**, and its parent company **Kroger**. **IBT President Hoffa** will be out here to address a rally at the Fred Myer distribution center at 2:00 in Puyallup September 9th.

THE SEASONS

Well, let’s see, there is the Arab Spring, The Winter of our discontent, The long hot summer, and the Autumn of our lives. It has been quite a year, and it only promises to get more interesting. We actually had a month (July) when we had ZERO job growth.

The weather has been especially quixotic around the country. Actually, we have been fairly lucky, keep your fingers crossed.

Richard Trumka, President of the **AFL-CIO** recently stated that labor is going to scale back support for the **Democratic** Party and create a super PAC that will work to strengthen labor organizations, instead of just continuing to fatten the Democratic Party’s larder.

The **NLRB** (National Labor Relations Board) has issued an edict effective November 14th, advising large companies that they must post notices in the work place, informing their employees of their basic right to join a union, and other basic rights they enjoy under the

National Labor Relations Act. It seems a damn shame that 76 years after the act was passed, that corporations are just now being required to do the right thing.

I also know that the fact that our Republican/Tea party brethren almost brought the country to its knees this summer with the debt crisis, should not be forgotten by the voting public. To be fair however, neither party has inspired much hope lately.

AUSTRALIAN LOGIC

A Catholic Priest, an Indian doctor, a Chinese business man, and an Aussie, were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers in front of them. The Aussie fumed, "What's with those guys?!? We must have been waiting 15 minutes!"

The Indian doctor chimed in, "I don't know, but I'm losing my patience!"

The Chinese businessman called out "Move it, time is money!"

The Catholic Priest said "Here comes George the greens keeper. Let's have a word with him."

"Hello, George!" said the Priest, "What's wrong with the group ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they?"

George replied, "Oh yes. That's a group of blind fire fighters. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year. We are forever grateful. We always let them play for free anytime."

The group fell silent for a moment. The priest was the first to speak and said, "That's so sad, God forgive us. I will say a special prayer for them tonight."

The Indian doctor said, "Vishnu, I repent. Good idea priest. I will also contact my ophthalmologist colleague and see if there's anything he can do for them."

The Chinese businessman replied, "I'm writing a check at this very moment, \$50,000 to these brave souls!"

The Aussie said, "Why can't they play at night?"

Come on down to lunch on the 14th, and besides having some fun, eating a nice meal, winning some prizes, getting some free books, etc; we can compare our new fall outfits!

******Have you heard? Corduroy pillows: They're making headlines!**

*****Did you know? 42.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot?**