



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



November 2009 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Where:

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

When

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

Special Guest: **Our Vets tell their story. What do you think of war?**

Lunch Menu: Turkey and all the trimmings.

Reservations: Call (206) 441-0504 by **Monday, November 9th** 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!*** How about inviting a friend to come along with you. Plus, we will have games and books for you to help yourself to for entertainment during these winter months. The books were donated by our friend Tim Corner.

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.

Y'ALL COME DOWN, YA HEAR?

Our caterer, Jeff, agreed to favor us with a traditional **Turkey** dinner, so let's make it worth his while and show up in large, boisterous, Teamster numbers. Since it is Veterans Day, we will have the building to ourselves as the JC office and local unions have the day off. Therefore, we can smack, burp, and talk with our mouth full of food just like our mother's taught us **not** to do.

We contacted the Union Center Pharmacy to see about the availability of regular and swine flu shots, and like the rest of the country, they are tapped out. They **may** have some available for our December luncheon. Also at that meeting, welfare trustee **Joe Tessier (117)** will be present to give us a heads up on the status of our plans going into 2010.

It is once again that time of year when we ask that you help us out with our Thanksgiving-Christmas gift card for needy Teamster families program. As you may know, each year we contact the local unions and solicit the names of member families that are having a hard time of it, and give as many as we can, a \$50 gift certificate to a local grocery store. So any moldy old \$5, \$10 or \$20's you have lying around would be appreciated.

There will be **NO** Puget Sound Labor Agency pick-up this month. You can still bring small amounts of donation on the off months as we have a storage closet in the building. My wife, the fabulous Bonnie, will be joining us...she seems to be attracted to "turkeys".

OH SAY CAN YOU SEE...

An end to war? An end to young men coming home dead, disfigured, or deranged?

It seems as though since we humans first emerged from our caves we have either been fighting among ourselves or with each other creating destruction, chaos, and engendering hatreds that last in some cases, for centuries. On Veterans Day, is it an appropriate time to ask if we think this (continual warfare) is inevitable.

Are there "good" wars? Is every man or woman that serves in the military, regardless of in what capacity, a "hero"? What about those individuals who survive horrendous battle episodes and come home to live a "normal" life? Is that even possible? What do you think of the way our veterans are treated by the government and their communities after they return? Do you think re instituting the draft would be a good idea...more fair?

During WW11, the entire country was asked to contribute, and share in the burden of being at war. Since that time, through Korea, Vietnam, Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq, it seems as though the general populace has been asked to sacrifice little or nothing. In fact, we were told during Vietnam that we could have both "guns and butter"...does this make sense, is it even moral?

These are just a few questions that the answers to which would make for an interesting dialogue. Let's do it, and show the younger generation that in fact, we **have** acquired wisdom.

PEOPLE IN GLASS HOUSES

While on a road trip, an elderly couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch. After finishing their meal, they left the café and resumed their trip. When leaving, the woman unknowingly left her glasses on the table and she didn't miss them until they had been driving about 20 minutes. By then, to add to the aggravation, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around-in order to return to the restaurant to retrieve her glasses.

All the way back, the husband became the classic grouchy old man. He fussed and complained and scolded his wife relentlessly during the entire return drive. The more he chided her—the more agitated he became...he just wouldn't let up. To her relief, they finally arrived at the eatery.

As the woman got out of the car and hurried inside to retrieve her glasses, the old geezer yelled to her. "While you're in there, you might as well get my hat and credit card!"

PS: CALL A FRIEND, BUDDY, RELATIVE, OR YOUR PAROLE OFFICER AND COME JOIN US FOR A SUMPTIOUS LUNCH...AND PAY TRIBUTE TO OUR VETERANS..AND SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS WITH US.