



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



January 2012 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Where:

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

When

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

Special Guest: Prof Eric Thompson aka #1 Son's topic, "What the Mormons believe"

Lunch Menu: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rice Pilaf and other good stuff for a New Year's diet that is sure to please

Reservations: Call (206) 441-0504 by **Monday, January 9th** to reserve your place for lunch. The cost of lunch is only **\$13.00**. ***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.

ANOTHER ONE IN THE CAN

To all you retirees and retiree want-to-bees, Happy New Year. My wife and I just returned from walking Shilshole waterfront, on a glorious, mild, January 1st. The Olympic Mountains were putting on quite a show, and it just felt good to be alive. Good health to everyone in this New Year and as far as next year is concerned, let's not push it.

There will be **no Labor Agency pickup** this month. Please note that lunches will now cost **\$13** dollars. **Gloria's** food prices have steadily increased, and she just cannot absorb them any longer. Please check your membership status, and see if you are current with your \$10 dollar annual dues. (Applicable only after your first year of retirement.)

We hear that our good friend **Ron Namma** will be sidelined for a couple of months recovering from ankle replacement. Ron was a star basketball player at **Lincoln High School**, and helped the team win the state championship.

Harold Schmidt tells me he was visiting a friend at **St. Anne's rest home** in northeast Seattle when he noticed a resident that looked familiar. It turned out to be former GTRC member and fondly dubbed "The Button Man" **Les Albright**. Les retired many years ago as a driver for **Fredrick and Nelson**. Do you remember when they were the elite department store in Seattle? We still thank them for introducing us to **Frangos**. If you would like to stop by and say hi to Les, the home is located at 3540 110th Ave N.E.

In case you haven't heard yet, the trustees of the **Western Conference of Teamsters Pension Trust** agreed last March to make the 13th check a permanent part of the plan for members that retired prior to 1985. It will be mailed the second week in February.

GTRC trustee, **Pete Coates** has been apprising our members at the luncheons of the importance of **buying American**. Here are some Web sites you may access for buying American made products:

- (1) madeinusaforever.com
- (2) tapamerica.org
- (3) buyamerica.org
- (4) madeinusa.org.

ABC nightly news has been highlighting this theme in the past months, and on one show featured a builder in **Bozeman Montana** who had constructed an entire home using only materials made in the U.S.

I'M NOT DONE YET...FOCUS!

My son Eric is visiting the area so I asked him to be our January speaker. He agreed, and we thought with the **Republican** battle for the nomination in full swing, discussing the **Mormon** faith would be of interest to many as it has become quite an issue with voters and pundits alike.

Eric is able to discuss this issue with the dispassionate eye of the scholar, teacher, and researcher. He will offer no “red meat” for Mormon haters, nor will he provide a glowing testimonial for Mormon dogma. Come on down and check it out, and hopefully his presentation may clear some of the misconceptions being bandied about.

I am pleased that our armed forces are finally out of Iraq, and that many of them got to be home to celebrate the holidays with their families. What needs to happen now is for the economy to get off its dead ass, so these returning veterans will be able to find a job! I would like to add, a union job, with benefits...but reality rears its ugly head and says “let’s just start with a job”.

THESE COUPLETS NOT JUST FOR WOMEN

’Twas the month after Christmas, and all through the house,
Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse.

The cookies I’d nibbled, the eggnog I’d taste,
At the holiday parties had gone to my waist.
When I got on the scales there arose such a number!
When I walked to the store (less a walk than a lumber).

I’d remember the marvelous meals I’d prepared,
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared.
The wine and the rum balls, the bread and the cheese,
And the way I never said, “No thank you, please.”

As I dressed myself in my husband’s old shirt,
And prepared once again to do battle with dirt.
I said to myself as only I can,
“You can’t spend a winter disguised as a man!”

So—away with the last of the sour cream dip,

Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker and chip.
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished,
'Till all the additional ounces have vanished.

I won't have a cookie—not even a lick,
I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.
I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie,
I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.

I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore,
isn't that what January is for?
Unable to giggle, no longer a riot,
Happy New Year to all and to all a good diet!!

Dry your eyes and read on.

I would like to share a drinking and driving story with you: As you know, some of us have been known to have had brushes with the cops on our way home from the odd social over the years.

A couple of nights ago, I was out for a few drinks with some friends and had a few too many beers. Knowing full well I may have been slightly tipsy, I did something I've never done before- I took a bus home.

I arrived home safely and without incident, which was a real surprise, as I have never driven a bus before and am not sure where I got this one!

See you on the 11th! Good people, prizes and books!!!