



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 2010 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Where:

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

When

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

Special Guest: **Bill Mace-Education Coordinator Seattle Fire Department**

Lunch Menu: Spaghetti-meatballs-Ravioli, salads, veggies, rolls, dessert, coffee

Reservations: Call 206-441-0504 by Monday, January 11 to reserve your place for lunch. The cost of lunch is \$12.00 CALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SPACES ARE LIMITED.

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.

IT'S 2010...HERE WE GO AGAIN

Happy new year to all of you, and I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays. It was clear to me that no one was trying to "steal" Christmas, because everywhere I looked, it was alive and well.

Trustee Jim Foster notified us that he gave away 16 gift cards to Teamster families in need, and one card was for \$100 for a family that was burned out of their home and had nothing.

Santa, who visited us at our December luncheon dropped me a note and said he really enjoyed dropping by. He said that he might come again next year, but hopes whoever pinched him on the rear will be more discreet next December.

The Union Center Pharmacy will be at our January luncheon to administer vaccine for flu, Shingles, etc. We will not have a pickup by the Puget Sound Labor Agency until March, but we can accept donations, food and otherwise, until then. This is a good time to check your smoke alarm batteries, your furnace filter (does it need changing), and when is the last time you had your vehicle serviced.

You should also ask yourself if you have remembered to pay your modest \$10 dues to the G.T.R.C. Just trying to be helpful.

For your information, in an election just concluded, 174 Secretary Treasurer, Rick Hicks, was re-elected to a new 3 year term. Congratulations to him and his staff. Local 174 is a strong supporter of the retirees club.

WHAT IS ON THE HORIZON

One of life's enduring mysteries is the eternal quest to know what is coming next, what is around the bend, is it going to rain next week, and when will Mt Rainier blow?

For instance, we are pretty sure that the congress is going to pass a new national health plan. We are all wondering what will it contain, how much will it cost, and what am I going to get out of it? What politician, rock star or athlete is going to be caught up in a scandal. We hope Mother Nature will behave herself, but that is far from a certainty. We have a bad economy, an occupation (IRAQ), and a war in Afghanistan, along with an immigration problem. This all is just the tip of the iceberg.

How will this all shake out. Will we live long enough to see any of these situations improved? We can only hope that 2010 will start to provide some daylight on these issues. Where is Nostradamus when we need him?

MERRY CHRISTMAS

There was a man who worked for the Post Office whose job was to process all the mail that had illegible addresses. One day, a letter came addressed in a shaky handwriting to God with no actual address. He decided to open it. It read:

Dear God, I am an 83 year old widow, living on a very small pension. Yesterday someone stole my purse. It had \$100 in it, which was all the money I had until my next pension payment. Next Sunday is Christmas, and I had invited two of my friends over for dinner. Without the money, I have nothing to buy food with, I have no family to turn to, and you are my only hope. Can you please help me?

Sincerely, Edna....

The postal worker was touched. He showed the letter around and each worker dug into their wallet or purse and soon he had collected \$96, which they put in an envelope and sent to the woman. The rest of the day, all the workers felt a warm glow thinking of Edna and the dinner she would be able to share with her friends. Christmas came and went. A few days later, another letter came from the same old lady to God. All the workers gathered around while the letter was opened. It read:

Dear God, How can I ever thank you enough for what you did for me? Because of your gift of love, I was able to fix a glorious dinner for my friends. We had a very nice day and I told my friends of your wonderful gift. By the way, there was \$4 missing. I think it might have been those bastards at the post office.

Sincerely, Edna.

Before you put this work of art in your shredder, remember the date, of our next luncheon meeting and bring a friend or even a relative.

P.S.

How bad is the economy? The economy is so bad that a truckload of Americans was caught sneaking into Mexico! So bad, Exxon-Mobil laid off 25 congressmen! And...Dick Cheney took his stockbroker hunting! Badda-boom!!