



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



May 2008 NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING

Where:

Tukwila Community Center
12424 – 42nd Avenue South
Tukwila, WA

When

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

Special Guest: **Nancy J. Dapper Executive Director
(Western & Central State Chapter) Alzheimer's Association**

Lunch Menu: Roast beef, baby potatoes, salads, veggies Roll, Dessert and Coffee.

Reservations: Call (206) 441-0504 by **Monday, May 13th** to reserve your place for lunch. The cost of lunch is only \$11.00.

Directions:

From Southbound I-5 take exit #156 – Tukwila, Interurban Avenue. Turn right onto Interurban Avenue South; proceed north. Turn right at the stoplight at 42nd; cross the Duwamish River. The TCC is located immediately on your right.

From Northbound I-5 take exit #156 - Tukwila, Interurban Avenue. Take the Tukwila exit, turn left onto Interurban Avenue South and proceed north. Move into the right lane. Turn right at the stoplight at 42nd; cross the Duwamish River. The TCC is located immediately on your right.

From Northbound or Southbound on Highway 99 turn east onto South 130th Street. Proceed straight; turn left at Macadam Road (north). Cross Interurban Avenue South and the Duwamish River. The TCC is located immediately on your right.

GATHER ROUND AND LISTEN UP !

We have been getting a fair amount of returned mail lately, so please remember to notify us by mail or phone if you move. You may move and not wish to receive the newsletter any longer (although that is hard to comprehend) and it would be helpful if we knew that also. Mailing costs are expensive, as is everything else, or hadn't you noticed?? There will **not** be a Labor Agency pickup this month. There will be available at all local union offices copies of the 2008 scholarship applications and rules. They will need to be in to us by **July 6th**. When being filled out, please remember to fill in **all** the blanks. If you are unable to pick up an application in person, please call your local, or the GTRC. You may leave a message and we will mail you a copy. Another golf tournament reminder. We will once again have a shotgun start, and entry fee includes cart, sit-down lunch, and lots of prizes. Tell your friends...what the hell, tell your enemies!! Help us make 2008 the **BIGGEST and BEST** retirees golf tournament ever. Consider this: some of us old dogs wont be around next year.

A BUSY GUY

Not long ago I got a chance to sit down with **Al Hobart**, President of Joint Council 28, and second term International Vice President in the western region for the Teamsters union. Needless to say, he is a busy fellow with a lot on his mind these days. Al is a very direct person. As I sat down across from him, he flicked on his computer terminal and up popped an image of his latest grandchild. Grinning from ear to ear he said "this is what it is all about". Hobart was born in Omak WA in 1944. He grew up with 3 sisters and 2 brothers. His father was an operating engineer and Al was made aware of the importance of unions early on. He graduated from Okanogan High and worked construction as a young man. He is married, and he and his wife are the proud parents and grandparents of 2 sons, 3 daughters, 6 grandchildren and one "on the way". He became a Teamster in 1965 at Coke, and worked his way up to center manager. In 1975, Al was hired as an organizer by then local 148, which later merged with local 760. Hobart later became the Secretary Treasurer of that local, and became President of J.C. 28 in 2001. He mentioned that he felt the greatest sense of accomplishment whenever he won an organizing drive, and his greatest despair has come on those rare occasions when workers are forced to go back to work after striking, with an inferior contract. He sees the immediate future for organized labor as a little bleak, and feels strongly that the movement needs to be more militant. That wont happen Al opines until more members get off the sidelines and get involved! As far as his spare time is concerned, he doesn't have a lot of it. He has a boat that he rarely gets to use. As noted above, family is all important to him, and it is also good to know that he is keeping firm hands on the Teamster "steering wheel."

POTSHOTS

On Thursday, May 1st, it was my privilege to march in the ILWU sponsored march from Pier 30 to pier 66 along Alaskan Way. This demonstration was to protest the continuing occupation by the U.S. of Iraq, and to bring the troops home. Much of labor was represented and I met our intrepid editor Bill McCarthy there, along with some of our brothers from local 117. Many vets were interspersed with the marchers and even the “raging grannies” showed up.* A moment to shed a tear...The Sunset Bowl in Ballard shut its doors April 17th, and the building will be razed to provide more condos and retail space. Yet another community treasure lost to increasingly mindless development!

JUST BECAUSE

Just because someone doesn't love you the way you want them to doesn't mean they don't love you with all they have. * Jim and Edna were patients in a mental hospital. One day while they were walking past the hospital swimming pool, Jim suddenly jumped into the deep end, sank to the bottom, and stayed there. Edna jumped in, swam to the bottom, and pulled Jim out. When the hospital director learned of Edna's heroic act, he ordered her to be discharged from the hospital, as he now considered her to be mentally stable. When the director went to tell Edna, he said, “Edna, I have good news and bad news. The good news is you're being discharged. Since you were rationally respond to a crisis by jumping in and saving the life of another patient, I have concluded that you are of sound mind. The bad news is that Jim, the patient you saved, hung himself in the bathroom with his bathrobe belt right after you saved him.” I am so sorry, but he's dead.” Edna replied,” He didn't hang himself, I put him up there to dry. How soon can I go home?”***Hope to see you all on the 14th, we will have some great post Mother's Day prizes.