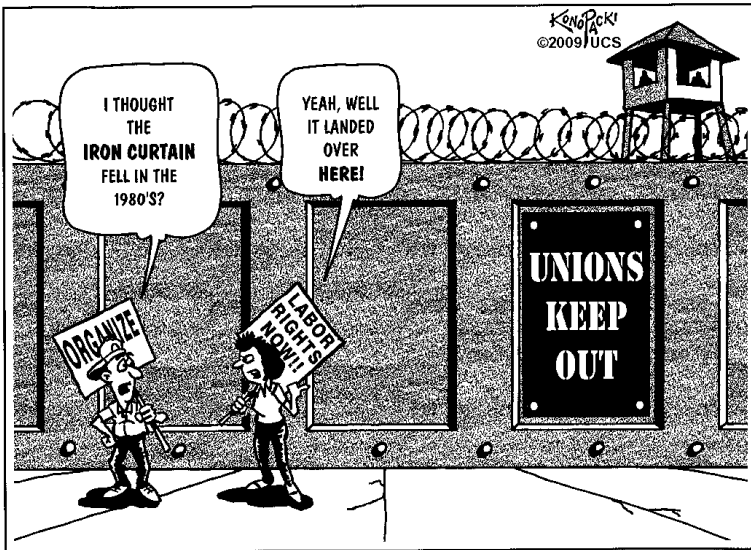




Inside This Issue:

- Secretary Treasurer's Report
- Scholarships Available
- Employee Free Choice Act
- News from the IBT
- Labor News from Around the Country



Important Dates:

Pension Meetings

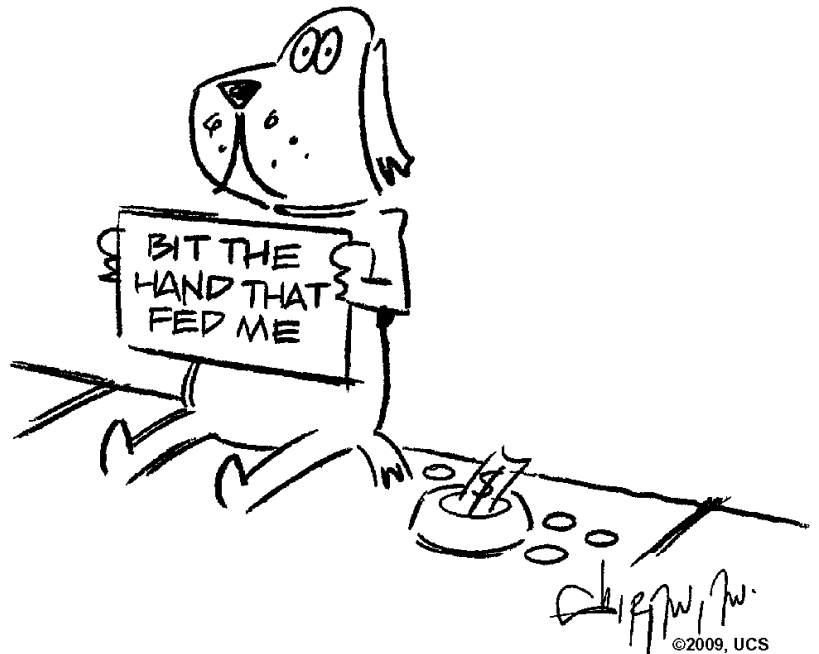
Monday, August 24, 2009
Wednesday, August 26, 2009
9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Shop Steward Training

Thursday, September 3, 2009
9:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

General Membership

Tuesday, September 22, 2009
10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.



2009 James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship Fund

Applications for the 2009 James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship Fund Essay Contest, complete with eligibility and other requirements may be picked up at the Local Union offices. The 2009 James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship fund is offering fifty \$1,000.00 scholarships.

All applicants must comply with the following criteria.

1. Be the son, daughter or grandchild of an eligible Teamster member;
2. Be enrolled full-time in an undergraduate college, university or community college program, or a technical or vocational program;
3. Be 23 years old or younger by September 30, 2009;
4. Applicant must attach, on a separate sheet, a type-written essay of 500 words or less. (Essays will not be returned.)
5. Applicant must forward the completed application and essay to the James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship Fund office by September 30, 2009. We cannot allow any extensions to this deadline.

2009 Essay Topic: What was the worst job you or a family member ever held, and how would a labor union, such as the Teamsters, have made the situation better?



Understanding Your Workplace Weingarten Rights

If you are called to a meeting with management and believe discipline could result, you should state the following:

"If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that a union representative be present at the meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions."

These are your Weingarten Rights. Use them to protect your rights!



Local Union Executive Board

Back Row from left to right:

Mike Magnani-Secretary-Treasurer

Brian Vonderohe-Trustee

Terra Lax-Recording Secretary

Ed Rudd-Trustee

Front Row:

Tony Sasso- Vice President

Helen Green- President

James Dunbar- Trustee

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

by Mike Magnani

The Local Union is struggling to locate jobs within our bargaining units for the members that we have in lay-off status. It has been difficult in that we have so many members laid off, 800 to be exact. Although the statistics put out routinely by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index have shown for the United States – all cities – percentage changes from December of 2008 through June of 2009 minuses in wage earners earnings, the fact is that June of 2009 (last recorded month) indicates that the Consumer Price Index has dropped by two percentage points, which is the largest drop in recent history. Economists will tell you that two quarters of decline in the Consumer Price Index would officially indicate that we are in a recession.



Mike Magnani,
Secretary-Treasurer

Where the Local Union used to be able to refer members who have financial problems to various agencies that were capable of helping with rent, utilities, food, etc.; even those resources are drying up. We have members that are losing their homes, it's not a pretty picture. I keep going back to the old phrase, "what hurts one hurts all."

For the better part, most of our employers, through price reductions for rooms and car rentals have been able to lure clientele back to their hotels which offers some job security to the members currently employed in those facilities. Our agreement with some properties to extend recall rights for two years from the date of lay-off should help several of our members with some assurance/hope that they will have an opportunity to return to work, retain their seniority and start to rebuild their lives. In the last two or three weeks some of our employers have placed calls to the Local Union and to our members in lay-off status to return to work, which, in and of itself, is a step in the right direction, but those calls are dribbling in.

Our employers are telling us that the dramatic layoffs that they have been required to do in order to save money has potential for hurting their base. Most consumers don't mind coming to Las Vegas and losing a little bit of money provided they are entertained well and made to feel comfortable while they are in these facilities. The employers and Union agree that customers that have to wait in line for long periods of time do not start their visits to the Las Vegas area with a smile on their face and enthusiasm about getting to the tables or gaming machines. I have asked our employers to increase their staffing levels at their earliest convenience so that the word reaches the clientele community that Vegas is back to being healthy, wealthy and friendly.

In recent months our organizing department has been able to organize the Binion's Hotel Valet Department, Bally's/Paris Business Center and, just last Friday, the Planet Hollywood Valet Parkers, which should help our members a little bit, but, of course, we do not require newly organized groups to pay dues until such time as they have ratified a labor agreement. We are currently in contract negotiations with Binion's Hotel and the Business Center at Bally's/Paris, but the National Labor Relations Board has not yet certified victory at Planet Hollywood. We expect that soon, at which time I will be able to notify the employer that we wish to begin the collective bargaining process for a first-time labor agreement for that facility.

Our Local Union has notified the Golden Gate Hotel of our intent to re-open their labor agreement, which expires on September 30, 2009. We also have contract re-openers before the end of 2009 with the Teachers Health Trust, the law offices of Levy, Stern and Ford and the Teamsters Local 631 Construction and Convention Training Centers.

In 2010 we will be faced with negotiations for our members employed at Caesars Palace Front End, the Rio Hotel, Paris Hotel, the Teachers Health Trust, Alamo/National Car Rentals, Comfort Care Dental and SouthShore Golf Course. So, as you can see, the activity of the Local Union continues even while our membership is down in numbers.

I hope your summer vacations with most children out of school have been fun and safe and I thank you all for being members of our Local Union. We are proud of each and every one of you. ■

Continuing Economic Downturn and Record High Unemployment Has Negative Effect on Las Vegas Workers

by Helen Green, President / Business Representative, 385-0995 ext. 210

As you all know, we just had a major vote at Harrah's and MGM properties for a wage freeze for the remainder of the 2009 contractual year. And that was rough. But it was necessary for Local 995 to bring that to our members at the request of those employers. In addition to the other service employee Union's who have members employed in the hotel industry, the Culinary Union, whose entire Strip membership voted up a wage freeze for their 2009 contractual year, and the Operating Engineers whose members voted up a contract that called for no wage increase for 2009 nor 2010, in order to help stave off additional job cuts for their members. And for the benefit of all of Local 995's members, and like the other service employee unions had, Local 995 also believed it better to have as many members as possible employed at a slightly lower wage rate for a period while attempting to weather our country and states economic crisis then for our membership to face additional lay-offs, and go without pension and health care benefits.

As you all know by reading the newspapers and watching the news, the nation's jobless rate continues to climb. When that happens, fewer people have less, if any, disposable income to spend in Las Vegas, or elsewhere on leisure activities. The biggest problem is, and as the crisis broadens, those who have disposable income to spend, won't, out of fear. Consequently, the economy continues to spiral downhill, and more jobs are at stake. In addition, on June 18, 2009, the Review Journal reported that experts see few signs of an end to the Silver State's surging unemployment.

The Las Vegas Review Journal reported in its Sunday, June 18, 2009, edition that the unemployment rate in Clark County alone hit a record high of 12.3 percent in June; up 6.4 percent from June of 2008. And in addition to the lay-offs in the hospitality sector, companies in

the struggling construction sector continue to lay off workers. The construction sector in particular dropped 1,200 jobs statewide and 1,100 posts locally from April to May, possibly reflecting job cuts on major Strip projects including the Fontainebleau and the Cosmopolitan; as a result, 3,650 construction workers in Las Vegas lost their jobs in March, alone. More disheartening, the Sunday, June 18, 2009, Review Journal reported that currently, Clark County has the highest home foreclosure rate in the nation.

Trying to help curb Nevada's current economic and unemployment crisis, U.S. Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid, On July 17, 2009, expressed his take on a letter from Rohm Emanuel, White House Chief of Staff, to Federal Government workers advising them that they shouldn't have to slink out in the dead of night to meet the boss to attend meetings in Las Vegas. That directive to Federal workers may ease the concern of a prior statement made by President Elect, Barack Obama, about how the bail out money to the failing auto makers and financial institutions shouldn't be spent on trips to Las Vegas. Immediately following that statement by the President, and most likely taken out of context, multiple companies cancelled their Las Vegas conventions. Further hurting your employer's business, our state's economy, and which resulted in more of our members being laid-off.

Thank all of you for your continued support and for being strong Teamster members. ■



*Helen Green,
President*

New Video Reveals Why Vets Need Employee Free Choice

This week, the LA County Federation of Labor released a new video featuring compelling and eloquent testimony of veterans and the challenges they face in finding good jobs after they leave the service. Most are earning less now than they were during their time in the military.

In the video, the veterans call on Senator Dianne Feinstein of CA to support the Employee Free Choice Act, which would give them the right to join a union in the same way they joined the military – with their signature. ■

Solis Honors Workers at National Labor College

June 2009 AIL-NILICO Labor Agenda

Newly appointed U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis honored the more than 5,000 workers who are killed on the job each year and the more than 50,000 who die from occupation illness and disease at the National Labor College's Workers Memorial Day ceremony held April 28th. Solis participated in the ground-breaking ceremonies for the new Workers Memorial to be constructed on the center of the College's campus in Silver Spring, Md. She joined NLC President William E. Scheuerman, AFL-CIO President John J. Sweeney, Secretary-Treasurer Richard L. Trumka, United Mine Workers President Cecil Roberts and hundreds of union leaders and college faculty, students and staff.

"It is appropriate that we dedicate this memorial at the National Labor College. Not only will this calm and quiet spot serve as a gathering place to pause and remember the men and women who have lost their lives while pursuing their livelihood, but it will serve as a reminder to future labor leaders about the importance of workplace safety," said Solis.

Solis also sponsored an engraved brick in honor of Department of Labor Employees who gave their lives in ser-vice.

Sweeney called the memorial "a lasting tribute" to workers who lost their lives "simply trying to make a living."

"Through the efforts of this college, the union movement and all those who work to improve health and safety conditions on the job, we will continue to fight to ensure that workers are able to return home alive and well, every single day," he said.

The Workers Memorial Day activities included a formal ground-breaking and bricklaying for the new national

230 Economists Voice Support for Employee Free Choice Act

The Employee Free Choice Act is absolutely necessary to help workers rebuild the economy, according to a statement signed by 230 economists from top institutions in 33 states.

The economists point to the erosion of working family incomes as a key factor in our economic crisis – and the need for the freedom of workers to bargain collectively,

Workers Memorial to be constructed at the center of NLC campus. The events also included a special reading by NLC Alum Eric Kaufman from his treatment of the 1911 Triangle fire, "0707," followed by a traditional candle-lighting ceremony honoring all fallen workers.

According to an AFL-CIO annual report, *Death on the Job: The Toll of Neglect*, issued Monday, April 27, more than four million workers were injured and 5,657 workers were killed due to job hazards.

Another 50,000-60,000 died due to occupational diseases. On an average day, 15 workers lose their lives as a result of workplace injuries and disease, and another 10,959 are injured.

"In our nation, we have memorials that honor police or firefighters killed in the line of action; we have markers to tragedies like the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire and 9-11," said Scheuerman. "The Workers Memorial is for all workers and all workplace tragedies and there is no more fitting place for this memorial than where it is today—the centerpiece of an institution devoted to the study of how to improve labor conditions."

The Memorial is expected to be constructed over the course of the summer. Labor unions and individuals may continue to purchase engraved granite benches in honor of their members, pavers in honor of a major event or tragedy or bricks in honor of specific workers who died on the job.

For more information about the memorial or to be a sponsor, go to:

www.nlc.edu/alumniCommunity/GivingToNLC/WorkersMemorial.html ■

without fear of management abuses, as key to recovery. "As economists, we believe this is a critically important step in rebuilding our economy and strengthening our democracy by enhancing the voice of working people in the workplace," the statement said.

**EVERY MEMBER
IS AN ORGANIZER**

News from the Offices of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Employee Free Choice Act (H.R. 1409/S. 560):

During the two-week Congressional recess in April, the Teamsters and others ramped up activities surrounding the Employee Free Choice Act while members of Congress were back in their districts. The American Rights at Work ad campaign, “Faces of the Employee Free Choice Act,” ran in five target states – Arkansas, Pennsylvania, North Dakota, Colorado, and Louisiana. The campaign puts pictures of workers and their stories on bill-boards or banners, highlighting either the workers’ positive experiences with majority sign-up or negative experiences with employers while trying to form a union. One such banner currently hangs in front of the IBT and features Corey Kresse, a North Dakota welder who was fired when trying to organize his workplace with the Teamsters. Banners traveled to target states during the Congressional recess, making their way to rallies and in front of Senators’ district offices.

There were many rallies, meetings and press conferences that Teamsters all across the country participated in during the recess. A few examples include: Teamsters Local Union 364 in Indiana organized an Employee Free choice Act rally, with over 100 participants and media coverage; Arkansas Teamsters attended multiple town hall meetings with Senator Blanche Lambert Lincoln, effectively putting the pressure on the Democratic Senator who opposes the legislation; and Teamsters Local Unions 601 and 439 attended a rally in Stockton, California to ramp up the pressure on Democratic Senator Dianne Feinstein.

During the week-long Memorial Day Congressional recess, the “Faces Campaign” was rolled out again in the target states of North Dakota, Maine, and Virginia. Teamsters in these states participated in a number of events during the week, including rallies, town hall meetings, press conferences, and worksite visits. General Secretary-Treasurer Keegel spoke at an event held in Fargo, North Dakota on May 30.

Our letter-writing and phone call campaigns continue, especially as we anticipate the seating of Al Franken as Senator of Minnesota and a possible vote on the legislation either at the end of June or July. We ask that all Local Union and Joint Councils continue to encourage members to write and call their Senators. For a sample call script and/or handwritten letter, please contact the Department of Field and Political Action at (202) 624-6993.

Panama Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and TRADE Act:

The Teamsters strongly oppose the pending Panama FTA, another flawed trade agreement modeled after the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), which could be submitted to Congress for a straight up or down vote at some point this year.

Panama remains a tax haven for individual and corporate tax cheats, as well as money launderers. As it is currently written, this agreement would only provide American companies looking to evade paying taxes with further incentive to set up offshore operations and take away American jobs in the process. Similar to NAFTA and CAFTA, the agreement would also give investors special rights not afforded to them in the U.S., allowing them to challenge state and federal laws and regulations in foreign tribunals.

We need a new, balanced trade policy for our country that creates U.S. jobs and rebuilds our economy. Last year, the Teamsters stood in full support with Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Representative Mike Michaud (D-ME) when they introduced the Trade Reform, Accountability, Development and Employment Act, or the TRADE Act. The TRADE Act offers a blueprint for what our trade agreements with other countries should look like and ensures that these agreements are fair for all those involved. Eighty members of Congress signed on as cosponsors in the last Congress to this important piece of legislation, and we hope to have even more cosponsors when Senator Brown and Representative Michaud reintroduce the TRADE Act this year. The legislation will be reintroduces soon.

On May 21, during a hearing on the Panama FTA held by the Senate Finance Committee, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative Everett Eisenstatt announced that the trade agreement would not be submitted for a vote by congress until President Obama offers a new “framework” for trade. The positive statement and the possibility that trade reform for our country could be on the horizon are encouraging signs; however, Congress still needs to hear from us on this issue. We encourage Teamster members to contact their members of Congress and ask for their opposition to the Panama FTA and support for the TRADE Act.

You can send an e-mail to your representative and Senators by visiting the Teamsters Take Action campaign at www.teamsterstakeaction.org/campaign/panama_fta.

Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (S. 181):

continued on page 7, See **International General Membership Newsletter**

Hoffa Urges President Obama to Take Action On Employee Free Choice, Health Care, Economy

July 13, 2009-Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa met with President Obama and other labor leaders today at the White House to discuss issues important to Teamsters, including the Employee Free Choice Act, health care, pensions and the economy.

“We are working closely with President Obama on issues that are important to Teamsters and all workers,” Hoffa said. “Each of the issues we discussed today is a key to turning around the economy and giving workers hope.” The Employee Free Choice Act will allow workers to gain a voice on the job and improve their standard of living.

Hoffa has led the fight against a proposal to tax workers’ health care benefits to help fund health care costs. He

supports a robust, quality public plan option that will lower costs and ensure that Americans without coverage can receive it.

Hoffa and the other labor leaders also urged the president to take every step possible to create good-paying jobs that cannot be outsourced. Since the beginning of the recession, 6.5 million jobs have been lost.

“I agree with President Obama that unions are a key to the solution to fixing our economic mess,” Hoffa said. “He was elected because Americans believe we need an economy that works for everyone. The Teamsters Union looks forward to working with the president to help make that happen.” ■

Dues and Taxes

by Bill Burgos, Business Representative – 385-0995, ext. 209

I received a wonderful letter from the Southern Nevada Teamsters Training Center praising all of you at Caesars Palace and wanted to make sure that you all are aware of the great impression you made and how well you represent Teamsters Local 995. Thank you for being such awesome Teamster members!

“July 23, 2009

Dear Teamster Brothers Mike and Bill:

We attended a week long conference for the Western Apprenticeship Coordinators last week at Caesars Palace. We wanted to take the opportunity

to commend the Teamsters 995 and their members who served us each day. The Teamster Valet attendees were a shining example representing as a Teamster should through their work with pride and precision. Each morning and each evening the personalities were all the same...excellent, courteous, and professional. The Teamster pride showed brightly all week long as well as the pride we felt knowing who we share our brotherhood with.

Fraternally,

Crystal Allen, *Apprenticeship Coordinator*

Julie Morgan, *Administrative Assistant/Dispatcher*”

Card Check Abandoned

by Debra Miller, Business Representative, 385-0995 ext. 208

Organized labor is nearing a deal to salvage legislation that could aid the union movement, but it had to drop “card check” – a key component of the original bill that would allow workers to form a union by signing cards instead of holding a secret ballot vote.

A Democratic official familiar with the compromise talks on a bill to make forming a union easier say union leaders are willing to drop the politically volatile “card check” plan to win over Senate Democrats.

The compromise would still include other factors labor officials desire including binding arbitration after 120 days if a new union and management can’t agree on a first contract and shortening the election time from 42 days from filing to 10 days.

While giving up on card check is a setback for organized labor, a reworked bill would still offer a major over-haul of labor laws to help unions sign up more members. ■

Labor News From Around the Country

Vice President Joseph Biden and other top members of the Obama administration last month cancelled plans to attend annual U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting in Providence, R.I. to avoid crossing picket lines set up by International Association of Fire Fighters Local 799. Fire fighters were joined by the Rhode Island state federation and other unions. Union leaders reported that Providence Mayor David Cicilline has waged a nearly seven-year campaign against the fire fighters, refusing to negotiate fairly, forcing the union into arbitration over each contract, and introducing anti-union ordinances and calling for similar state legislation. "...by refusing to attend this high-profile conference, (the Obama Administration) have sent a strong message to the entire country-that unions and workers rights matter," said IAFF National President Harold Schaitberger.

America's 14.5 million unemployed workers find little comfort that May's job loss was about half the average for the past six months, and below economists' projections, said AFL-CIO in response to recent jobless numbers report. U.S. economy lost 345,000 jobs in May, AFL-CIO noted, which brings total job loss in the recession to over six million. Nation's unemployment rate jumped to 9.4 percent. Labor urged Congress and the Obama Administration to remain focused on stimulus efforts to end the recession, warning that jobs will continue to disappear and ranks of unemployed will grow. "We must pay particular attention to the issues of underemployment, long-term unemployment and wage growth," AFL-CIO said. AFL-CIO and Working America have created nation's largest online resource for unemployed workers at www.unemploymentlifeline.com.

Private sector employer opposition to workers' efforts to form unions intensified and became harsher, according to new study, "No Holds Barred: The Intensification of Employer Opposition to Organizing," published by the American Rights at Work Education Fund and the Economic Policy Institute. Report author, Cornell University professor Kate Bronfenbrenner, found increased use of punitive employer behavior from 1999-2003 against workers in National Labor Relations Board-supervised elections. According to Bronfenbrenner, employers in NLRB election campaigns routinely subject workers to threats, interrogation, harassment, surveillance, and retaliation for union activity. Study found that the right to form a union and bargain collectively free from coercion and intimidation is "at best

a promise indefinitely deferred."

With an economy shrinking at the fastest pace in at least 15 years, Europe lost record 1.22 million jobs in the first quarter, according to the European Union statistics office. Payrolls fell 0.8 percent in the 16-member euro region from the fourth quarter, when they declined 0.4 percent, as companies cut spending to survive worst global economic slump in more than 16 years. First-quarter drop was the biggest decline since payroll data collection started in 1995. "Companies will continue to cut jobs well into 2010, pushing up unemployment across the region," predicted Stefan Bielmeier, an economist at Deutsche Bank AG in Frankfurt. "While the economy may start to stabilize, the worst is still ahead in terms of the labor market." EU jobless rate, which is currently 9.2 percent, highest since September 1999, is expected to average 9.9 percent this year and 11.5 percent in 2010. Biggest job losses are projected to be in Ireland and Spain.

Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild/CWA Local 32035

June 12 ratified two-year contract with The Washington Post while members of the Boston Newspaper Guild Local 31245 reached concessionary contract demanded by Boston Globe management to keep newspaper open and avoid immediate 23 percent pay cut. Boston Guild represents approximately 700 editorial and clerical workers. Tentative agreement comes a little more than two weeks after the Boston Newspaper Guild narrowly rejected a similar package of concessions. Post contract, meanwhile, provides lump-sum payments in both years to some 1,000 covered union employees, introduces different pension benefits for newly hired workers, and begins the integration of Web-based employees into the bargaining unit. Management won concession on seniority which exempts from seniority rules up to 25 percent of employees at a section targeted for layoffs.

Hawaii Government Employees Association, Hawaii State Teachers Association and the United Public Workers filed separate complaints in Circuit Court in Honolulu saying furloughs should be the subject of collective bargaining negotiations between unions and the state. Unions asked court for an injunction blocking Gov. Linda Lingde from imposing furloughs in July or spending restrictions equivalent to furloughs at the state Department of Education. "Her imposed furloughs are unfair and unconstitutional, and we were forced to take legal action

continued on page 8, See **Labor News**

General Membership Newsletter

International, continued from page 4

On January 29, President Obama signed into law the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (P.L. 111-002), an advance for the rights of workers who are victims of pay discrimination. The bill receives its name from a woman who worked at a Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. plant and discovered that for many years, she had been paid less than male coworkers holding the same position. In 2007, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Ledbetter could not sue for pay discrimination on the grounds that the statute of limitations for doing so – 180 days after the pay was originally set – had already passed. The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act overturns the Court ruling and requires that the 180 day statute of limitations restart every time a worker receives a new discriminatory paycheck.

The House originally passed its version of the bill on January 9, which also included provisions from the Paycheck Fairness Act, which, among other things, would have increased the damages that victims of pay discrimination are awarded and closed loopholes for certain employer defenses of pay disparities. The Senate version, passed on January 22, did not include the Paycheck Fairness Act provisions. The House passed the Senate version on January 27, and the legislation was sent to the White House for the President's signature.

Workplace Safety and Health:

The increasing number of high profile workplace fatalities and serious injuries has drawn the attention of members of the House Education and Labor Committee.

On April 23, Representative Lynn Woolsey (D-CA), chair of the House Education and Labor Committee's Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, introduced the Protecting America's Workers Act of 2009 (H.R. 2067). The legislation will increase civil and criminal penalties for companies that violate workplace safety and health laws, make it possible for some employers to be charged with a felony, improve whistleblower protections for employees that report violations, and give more rights to injured workers, their family members, and family members of workers killed on the job. H.R. 2067 also requires employers to abate hazards during contests of citations and increases prison terms for lying to an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) inspector.

The subcommittee held a hearing on April 30 after the Labor Department's inspector general found that OSHA's Enhanced Enforcement Program, designed to enforce penalties for some of the most egregious violators, is not proving effective. Jordan Barab, deputy assistant secretary for OSHA, testified that a new program, the Severe

Violators Inspection Program, would be taking its place and "will ensure that recalcitrant employers not meeting their obligations under the OSHA Act are targeted for additional enforcement action.

Also testifying at the hearing was Jesus Rojas, stepson of Raul Figueroa, a worker at a Waste Management, Inc. (WMI) facility in Florida. Figueroa's facility was trying to organize with Teamsters. However, in January 2008, Figueroa was killed on the job when the hydraulic arm of the truck he was repairing severed his body. In Figueroa's case, WMI was only fined \$6,300. This is just one example of WMI's abominable safety record and the inadequate penalties for workplace fatalities. Passage of the Protecting America's Workers Act would help ensure that WMI and other employers who have a history of repeated violations will be held accountable.

On April 27, Representative Phil Hare (D-IL) introduced the Corporate Injury, Illness, and Fatality Reporting Act of 2009 (H.R. 2113). The bill requires America's largest employers to accurately report to the Department of Labor on the numbers and rates of work-related deaths, injuries, and illnesses at all of their worksites, as well as compliance data on inspections and citations at any of their worksites. Because OSHA is not currently required to conduct nationwide investigations into large companies with multiple establishments, repeat offenders can avoid detection and avoid making their workplace as safe as possible.

Rounding out the flurry of activity around Workers' Memorial Day on April 28, Representative Tom Bishop (D-NY) introduced the Protecting Workers from Imminent Dangers Act of 2009 (H.R. 2199). The bill grants OSHA the power to halt work at a place of employment that puts workers under imminent danger.

Presidential Executive Orders:

On January 30, General President Hoffa attended a White House ceremony with President Obama, Vice President Biden, and others for the unveiling of the new Task Force on Working Families, which will be led by Vice President Biden and will include the President's economic team as well as the Secretaries of Labor, Education, Commerce, and Health. Biden stated, "This Task Force will be an important vehicle to assess new and existing policies across the board and determine if they are helping or hurting the middle class. It is our charge to get the middle class – the backbone of this country – up and running again. The Task Force's first meeting was held in Philadelphia on February 27, and the topic was "Green Jobs: A Pathway to a Strong Middle Class."

Listen Up Workaholics!

by Beverly J. Williams, Business Representative – 385-0995, ext. 207

Yes, I'm talking to you! You are working too much, way too much! If you don't allow yourself to take a break you will burn out, become cranky tired, and sick.

Get a hobby. A new hobby will balance out your work time and your play time and balance your stress levels as well. The movies is a great way to escape to another place; just choose where you would like to go. Cooking, knitting,

museums, national parks; any kind of hobby that gets you out of the house and away from the office and that laptop.

Oh! Don't you dare touch that blackberry or that iphone! Turn it off! Go get some air in your hair. It will do you good. Now don't become a sluggard or shirk your duties, but do take some time for yourself and for your family; they will love you for it. Get way from that desk!!! ■

Retirees – Best Wishes

We would like to congratulate the following members who have recently retired:

Pat Brown-Amason—*Flamingo Front Desk*
 Dan Rasicci—*Golden Gate Valet Parker since 1966*
 Scott Bunker—*Excalibur Window Cleaner*
 Cynthia Jaspersen—*Las Vegas Hilton Front Desk*
 Doretha Rawls—*Las Vegas Hilton PBX*

Teamster Retiree Meetings

Retiree meetings start up again on September 17, 2009 at 12:00 noon for all Teamster Retirees living in Clark County. Meetings are held at Teamsters Local 631's meeting hall, which is located at 700 N. Lamb Boulevard in Las Vegas. Please contact Southern Nevada Teamsters Retiree Association President Barbara Beardsley with any questions at 648-3115.

Labor News, continued from page 6

to prevent implementation, and the harm it would do to government employees and their families," said HGEA's executive director Randy Perreira in a statement. Lingle ordered state workers to take three furlough days a month for the next two years, about a 13.8 percent pay cut, to save \$688 million.

Colorado labor roundly criticized Gov. Bill Ritter (D) after he vetoed June 4 a fire fighters' collective bargaining bill. "With an unconscionable stroke of his pen [Ritter] is preventing Colorado's fire fighters from having a voice at work through collective bargaining," AFL-CIO President John Sweeney said. While campaigning for governor in 2006 Ritter met with the Colorado Professional Fire Fighters during their state meeting and promised to support statewide collective bargaining. Bill would have required home-rule municipalities, fire authorities, county improvement districts, and special districts that provide fire protection services to collectively bargain with fire fighters in departments with 50 or more fire fighters.

DON'T SHOP AT WAL-MART OR SAM'S CLUB!

Questions about Your Pension?

A representative of the Western Conference of Teamsters Pension Trust Fund will be at the Local Union offices on Monday, August 24, 2009 and Wednesday, August 26, 2009 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The purpose of their visit will be to answer any questions our members might have about their pensions.

The pension representatives advise me that it would speed up the process if we notified them of our members' questions in advance of their arrival in town. It is not necessary to submit your questions in advance. Just show up at our offices anytime between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Members will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis.

Mark your calendars. All members are invited to attend.

International, continued from page 4

President Obama also signed three executive orders that day that repealed some of the Bush administration's anti-worker policies. These three executive orders will do the following: 1) require federal contractors to offer jobs to current workers when contracts change, 2) reverse a Bush order requiring federal contractors to post notice that workers can limit financial support of unions serving as their exclusive bargaining representative and now requiring that federal contractors post notices about employees' rights to choose whether or not to form a union, and 3) prevent federal contractors from being reimbursed for expenses intended to influence workers in their decision whether to form a union and engage in collective bargaining. On February 6, President Obama also signed an executive order allowing the federal government to require project labor agreements on large-scale construction projects.

TEAMSTERS LOCAL 995

REQUEST FOR NAME/ADDRESS/BENEFICIARY CHANGE

300 Shadow Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada 89106 • (702) 385-0995 phone • (702) 385-4410 fax

Should you have a name, address, phone number or beneficiary change, please fill out this form and return it to the Local Union offices as soon as possible. Beneficiary changes should be turned in to the pension and health insurance offices also. Those forms are available at the Local Union offices.

 Last Name First Name Initial

Social Security Number _____

ADDRESS CHANGE

 New Street Address City State Zip Code

New phone number including area code (_____)_____

NAME CHANGE ONLY

New Name _____

BENEFICIARY CHANGE

Note: The beneficiary designation below cancels all my prior beneficiary designations.

 Beneficiary Last Name First Name Initial

Relationship _____

 Street Address City State Zip Code

Signature _____ Date _____

*Would you like us to mail you address and beneficiary change forms for our insurance office?
 _____ yes _____ no, and/or our Pension Trust Fund office? _____ yes _____ no.*

Withdrawal Cards

Should you be planning to leave the jurisdiction of our Local Union for any reason, to include a promotion to a supervisory position, moving out of state, starting your own business, etc., please contact the Local Union to obtain a withdrawal card. Just call 385-0995, ext. 7 or come by the Local Union offices to obtain that card. It is quick and easy to obtain. ■





Sharon Shooshan,
*Shop Steward,
Circus Circus Room
Reservations*



Linda Vallee,
*Tropicana Room
Reservations*



Angel Celis-Lopez,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-
Receiving*



Vangie Murphy,
*Shop Steward,
Luxor Front Desk*



Carl Caccamise,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Jose Rodriguez,
*Las Vegas Country
Club Groundskeeper*



Barbara Hemenway,
*Shop Steward,
Luxor Reservations*



Emil Goralewski,
*Las Vegas Country
Club Groundskeeper*



Scott Bunker,
*Retired Excalibur
Window Cleaner*



Craig Mackelprang,
Bally's Gardener



Duane Rayne,
*Shop Steward,
Circus Circus
Receiving*



Brian Ferris,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Richard Bennett,
Bally's Gardener



Ed Rudd,
*Shop Steward,
Luxor Receiving/
Trustee, Teamsters
Local 995*



Chris Barnaby,
*Shop Steward,
Circus Circus
Receiving*



David Sorenson,
Tropicana Gardener



Arturo Madrigal,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



John Roman,
*Shop Steward,
Circus Circus
Laborer-Gardener*



Juan Rodriguez,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Leslie Gant,
Bally's Gardener



Marcello DiVincenzo,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Jimmy Morgante,
*Bally's Gardener
Foreman*



Mike Galardi,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Mitch Chariton,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Ernest Robles,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Bob Stoeckinger,
Bally's Gardener



Damon Effros,
*Shop Steward,
Circus Circus Valet*



Ann Marie Barone,
*Shop Steward
Excalibur Front Desk*



CJ Thomas,
*Alternate Shop
Steward, Circus
Circus PBX*



Stephanie Ames,
*Receptionist,
Teachers Health
Trust*



Rick Herbert,
*Shop Steward,
Luxor Valet*



Tom Gravell,
Flamingo Laborer



Lorenzo Avila,
Tropicana Laborer



Karen Kazinski,
*Shop Steward,
Luxor Gardener*



Tony Burrell,
Tropicana Valet



Tony Kretler,
*Shop Steward,
Luxor Laborer*



Eddie Sulit,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Denyse Claude,
*Shop Steward,
Luxor PBX*



Steve Black,
*Shop Steward,
Excalibur Receiving*



Bob Pence,
Bally's Gardener



Eric Pacelli,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Worrell Sylvester,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Juan Aguilar,
Bally's Gardener



Rojelio Sealey,
*Planet Hollywood
Warehouse-Receiving*



Margaret Dodd,
*Shop Steward,
Tropicana Gardener*



Ronald Cox,
*Circus Circus
Laborer-Gardener*



William Haselrig,
*Excalibur
Laborer-Gardener*



Hector Enriquez,
*Circus Circus
Laborer-Gardener*



Luxor Laborers and Gardeners Front Row: *Pat Pondaharn, Clem Artiga, Joseph Aguon, Linda Dickman, Mike Travis, Gardener Foreman, Jose Villarreal*
 Back Row: *Jeff Miller, Assistant Gardener Foreman, Dan Robinson, Laborer Foreman, Barry Nunes, Tom O'Grodney, Kenneth Kompany, Mike Stevens, David Popp, Tony Kretler, Laborer Shop Steward, Alex Castillo*



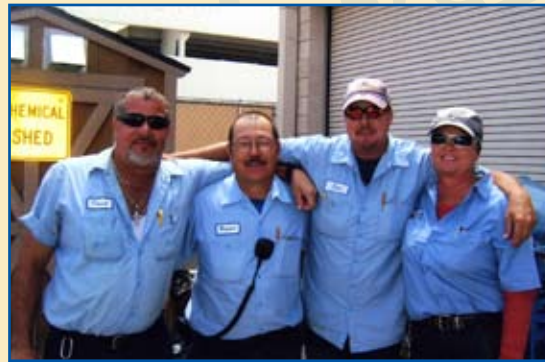
Excalibur Laborers and Gardeners (front to back / left to right) *Seymore Lamarti, Somy Sariang, Rufino Cabrera, Susan Tribett, Bo Diaz, Ruben Franco, Dave Sanchez, Flem "Flip" Wilson, Ray Fieldman Jr., William Hasselrig Jr., Dave Owens, Rafael Rodriguez, Laborer-Gardener Foreman, Phillip Primaky, Karl Hughes*



Susan D. Tribett, Excalibur Laborer-Gardener



Circus Laborers and Gardeners Front Row: *John Romano – Shop Steward, Daniel Barahona, Ronald Combs Jr.* Back Row: *Nick Glogoski, Hector Enriquez, Rick Muniz – Foreman, Robert Castrejon*



Excalibur Laborers and Gardeners (left to right) *Dave Sanchez, Rafael Rodriguez, Karl Hughes – Foreman, Kathy Avant – Shop Steward*



Somy Sariang, Excalibur Laborer-Gardener



Yolanda Dizon, Circus Circus Front Desk and her son Erwin Dizon - \$5,000 scholarship winner and Mike Magnani, Secretary-Treasurer



\$2,500 Scholarship Winner Gabriel Fuentes, his mother Jean Fuentes, Circus Circus Room Reservations and Mike Magnani, Secretary-Treasurer



Circus Laborers and Gardeners Front Row: *Robert Zobrist, Pat McBride, Ronald Coombs Jr., Rodney Ronnenberg, Nick Glogoski*
Back Row: *Joseph Gibson – Foreman, Rick Muniz*



Steve Fee, *Tropicana Gardener*



Emil Goralewski, Richard Balzek, Jeremy Shaffer & Lewis Bonchosky, *Las Vegas Country Club Groundskeepers*



Rommel Naval, Ray Zawisza, Ronald Butz, *Gardeners Tropicana Hotel*



Louis Taylor, Eddie Hamamura, Domingo Lujan, *Las Vegas Hilton Gardeners*



Bally's Gardeners



Daniel Rasicci, *Retired Golden Nugget Valet since 1966* and Mike Magnani, *Secretary-Treasurer*



MGM Shop Steward Concessions Meeting



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AND MISCELLANEOUS
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LOCAL UNION 995**
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Teamster History

By Mark Ranger, Organizer – 385-0995, ext. 214

History is an essential element in understanding your union. Many established procedures regarding the structure of the union and the rights and responsibilities of the members and officers can be explained through a study of the past efforts of our union members and leaders

Prior to 1900, Teamsters were drivers who delivered goods by horse-drawn wagons. The expanding industrial base within North America brought with it an expansion of the delivery of goods, thereby making team drivers important players in a growing economy. Teamsters often worked long hours for little pay, typically 12-18 hours a day for \$2.00. And the Teamsters had to assume liability for bad accounts and lost, stolen or damaged goods. In 1899, the Team Drivers International Union was formed in Detroit after Teamsters in several areas began to form local unions. That same year a similar national-level

organization was started in Chicago called Teamsters National Union. In 1903 the two unions merged to form the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Cornelius Shea was the first president and union headquarters was located in Indianapolis.

The newly formed affiliated with the American Federation of Labor (AFL) which had been established in 1881 as the umbrella federation for unions. The AFL was organized around specific trades or crafts thus giving rise to the phrase “trade unions.” The Teamsters charter from the AFL identified it as a trade union even though driving a team of horses was not considered a specific trade. AFL president Samuel Gompers recognized the key role Teamsters would play in the developing industrial economy. ■