



The Local Scene

For Members, Family and Friends of Teamsters Local 676
101 Crescent Boulevard Collingswood, NJ 08108 856-964-2101 www.ibtlocal676.org

Bimonthly Newsletter Volume 1 Issue 1

September — October 2004



Howard W. Wells

A Message from Our President

It is our intention that this will be the first of many newsletters you will receive as members of local #676. I am here to serve you and my door is always open to any member who needs assistance.

The Presidential Election that is about to take place may be one of the most important in our lifetime. Legislation that is enacted over the next four years is going to impact us, our families and our way of life as Union members.

For years, the Teamsters have worked with our allies in Congress to promote an agenda of creating jobs here in the United States, while protecting the rights of workers all over the globe. In John Kerry, we have a candidate who is committed to working with us to put America back to work, reversing the economic failures that have destroyed 3 million jobs in the past three years.

On March 26, Kerry unveiled a detailed plan to create 10 million jobs in the United States in four years. The plan centers on tax reform and credits to encourage job creation in the United States, a new emphasis on education and training and restoration of fiscal discipline to reduce the record \$543 billion deficit the Bush administration has run up since inheriting a \$5.7 trillion surplus from the Clinton administration.

"If a company is torn between creating jobs here or overseas, we now have a tax code that has American taxpayers paying to ship jobs overseas. That makes no sense. And if I am president, it will end," Kerry says.

Although Kerry supported the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and trade with China, he has acknowledged in conversations with Teamster leaders the problems of past trade agreements. John Kerry has committed that, as President, he will address every unfairness and fix these flawed pacts. Kerry also says he will insist on strong worker protections in new trade agreements.

This past May John Kerry traveled to the 2004 Teamster Unity Conference to address some 2,000 members in attendance. During his speech, Kerry reiterated his commitment to putting workers' rights, job protection, and job creation at the top of the agenda. He publicly stated his opposition to President Bush's latest job-killing trade deal – the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), promising to vote against it in the Senate.

If you would like to join John Kerry in his fight to defeat CAFTA, please log-on to www.teamstersforkerry.org/jobsandtrade.htm.

"Teamsters know better than anyone that America is at its best when Americans are at work," Kerry said. "I'm going to enforce trade agreements to stop American jobs from going overseas and put Americans back to work with my plan to create 500,000 new, good-paying jobs."

For more information on John Kerry and where he stands on other important working family issues, visit www.teamstersforkerry.org.

Be sure to Vote Nov. 2nd

When we approach the politicians necessary to pass union friendly legislation our leverage depends on the number of registered members and their families.

In the past we have been called a paper tiger because we have 5000 members but less than half are registered to vote. Of those only half actually vote.

So often we hear people say "THEY" elect or appoint whoever "THEY" want no matter what WE do. What "THEY" do is get likeminded folks to the polls to vote for the candidates "THEY" want.

The time is overdue for us to get the folks WE know out to the polls to vote for the candidates WE want and need in office.

To say you don't like any of the candidates and that's why you're not voting is a cop out. What you are really saying is you won't make the time to examine the issues and vote for people who can help your family.

How you vote is a personal matter. Whether or not you vote affects all of the members and their families here at Local 676.

Don't wake up November 3rd wishing you had done the right thing. It will be too late then to help yourself — to help your family — to help all of us.

There will be a
Christmas Party
for the members and their families
immediately following our monthly
meeting
December 19th.

Please call 856-964-2101 a week in
advance and let us know the age of
the boys & girls who will be coming
to see Santa.

Season's Greetings

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Are You Ready for Some Football?

Temple 16 — Bowling Green 70

In this case the score doesn't tell the tale. Buses left the Union Hall at 12:30 PM October 2nd headed for Lincoln Financial Field. Almost 300 members, their families and members of the Whitman Park Midget Football league had a super day. There were hoagies, soft pretzels and sodas for the group to compliment their free ticket to the game. Everyone enjoyed the day and the opportunity to see the new stadium.



Carl Paulett (center) with Retiree's Club Officer's

TeamsterVacations.com

Discount vacations for Teamster members

IBT Guest Speaker at Retiree's Club Meeting

Carl "Hands" Paulett the Eastern representative of the IBT's Retiree's division addressed the September meeting of the Retiree's Club.

Every member in attendance received an IBT Retiree's Division pin. Hands also distributed a half dozen patches and 10 Retiree hats.

He spoke on many of the issues important to retired members and their spouses. He also gave out pamphlets from the Alliance for Retired Persons.



Teamster Horsemen Motorcycle Assn

If you have a passion for riding and are interested in joining other Teamsters from PA, NJ and DE come join Chapter 53.

Members get together for fun, participating in Teamster activities, and assisting members of our great Union.

Teamster Horsemen is a nationwide organization. We are sanctioned by the IBT and have been a part of charity runs, parades, visited picket lines and generally just have a good time.

Like life you'll get out of it what you put into it. For information or to join contact Doug Hite at 410-658-2309 or visit their website at: <http://www.teamsterhorsemen53.org>

The Law & You

You will soon be receiving a booklet outlining the Teamsters Local 676 Reduced Rate Legal Plan. The Plan is provided by:

Willig, Williams & Davidson
1845 Walnut Street, 24th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-656-3600
1-800-631-1233

**Free Consultations, Conferences,
Follow Up Calls & more**

Rob Andrews, Congressman for the First District of NJ, was the guest speaker at our October General Membership Meeting.

He spoke to us about the need to put politicians in office who are friends of labor. We need men and women in office who will protect the best interests of working families.

Pensions, Healthcare and Job Security are all issues at risk in this election.



*** FYI ***



Check out the selection of new shirts, hats, pins, sweatshirts, etc. Items can be purchased at the monthly meeting or at the Hall 8 AM - 4:30PM
Pictured at left is our new Local 676 pin!

Withdrawal Card — Please Read!

Make sure you get a withdrawal card when leaving the craft or in case of illness, in order to avoid paying back dues and re-initiation fees.

May They Rest in Peace

We offer our sincere condolences to the families of members who have passed away over the years. We ask that you contact us in the event of a death so that we may pay our respects. It is important to us that we say thank you and goodbye to those who helped build and sustain our Union.