



The Local Scene

For Members, Family and Friends of Teamsters Local 676

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"He's made the whole world weep." Words of the sister of Cho Seung-Hui who killed 32 students and teachers at Virginia Tech University.

Please join me in a prayer for the victims, families, friends and the students of Va Tech. I hope this prayer makes it's way to some of the friends and families of Va Tech. to let them know they are in our thoughts and prayers.



Howard W. Wells

An Important Message from our President

As I watched the election results come in last November, I couldn't help but smile. For the first time in 12 years the Democrats would be in control of Congress. This change couldn't have come at a better time.

More than 46 million Americans, 80 percent of who are in working families, have no health care. Retirees are being denied their pension benefits. Students are being deprived of a quality education.

Families are looking in the mirror and asking themselves "What happened to the American Dream?"

As millions of workers struggle, the promise of America is getting more difficult to achieve. This is why we need an overall change in priorities if we are to give workers hope that better times are ahead.

The IBT has an aggressive agenda for 2007. Teamsters have always been actively engaged in politics, both at the local and national levels. Now that Democrats are chairing the committees and setting the agenda, our priorities become more than just words on paper. They are a plan to restore strength to working families.

We, at Local 676, have a few priorities of our own, including the location of new ports in Paulsboro, arbitration language for Patco and the security of our public employees rights. We are pushing for legislation to make their bargaining position stronger. In addition worker safety, highway construction and more jobs through the enforcement of PLA's (Project Labor Agreements which require contractors to pay prevailing wages) continue to be top priorities.

At our April 15th meeting guest speakers Senator Stephen Sweeney and Senator Fred Madden took on the tough and touchy questions from our members. Many of the issues above were covered.

In the upcoming months your BA's and an IBT representative will be visiting your barns. They will be explaining the importance of joining and contributing to D.R.I.V.E. (Democrat-Republican-Independent-Voter-Education). This is a powerful way for us to get politicians to listen to our concerns. It is also linked to organizing new members, which is a goal, to which our Local is dedicated.

On a lighter note I hope to see everyone at our 3rd Annual Picnic, to be held June 10th at Clementon Lake Park. This is a great opportunity for members of Local 676 to meet other members and relax with their families. Have a great summer!

Fraternally Howard W. Wells

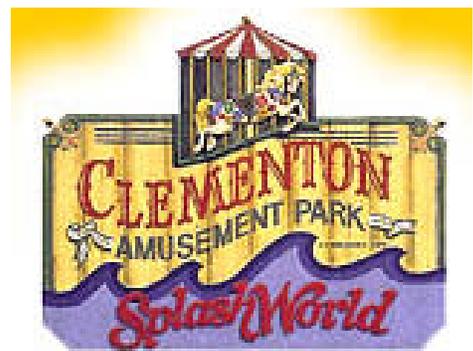
Recent Retirees

North Brooks Jr	Lester Fellows Co
Michael Bruckler	North Penn Transfer
Jeff Cundiff	United Parcel Service
James Hackett	United Parcel Service
Joseph Quaranto	Dabar Haulage Co

Next General Membership Meeting

May 20, 2007

There will be no meetings during the Summer Months of June, July and August



Last Call for Tickets!

Please call Shirley at the Hall by May 20th to reserve your tickets for our Third Annual Picnic. Come join us June 10th at Clementon Lake Park.

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New Jersey Senators Stephen Sweeney & Fred Madden Hold a Question & Answer Session at Local 676



Senator Sweeney at the Podium



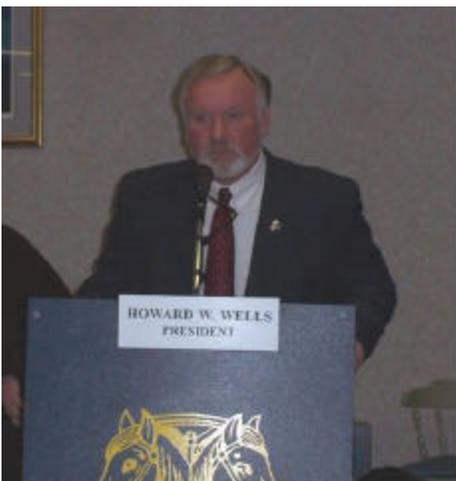
Senator Madden at the Podium



Senators Sweeney & Madden with members



Senator Madden answers questions



Howard addresses the crowd

New Jersey State Senators Stephen Sweeney and Fred Madden addressed the members at the April 15th General Membership meeting. The state of our State and current and future legislation were discussed.

At the end of their presentations, there was an open Q & A session. The members questions covered everything from tax relief to road projects to State workers pensions and benefits.

Both men answered all questions directly and fully. Some of the answers weren't what folks wanted to hear, but the Senators didn't attempt to sugarcoat or avoid any of the issues raised by our members.

The session was very informative for all those in attendance. In addition these two Senators are involved in pushing legislation crafted by Howard and Local 676 to resolve the contract negotiation roadblocks suffered by PATCO employees. Binding arbitration is the goal of the legislation

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Transatlantic union action: Coca-Cola workers demand basic rights and guarantees



President Wells & S/T King lead the way in NYC



In February, Coca-Cola Enterprises (CCE) – Coca-Cola's largest bottler - announced that it would eliminate 3,500 jobs (5% of its workforce), affecting both North America and Europe. Unions were neither consulted nor alerted beforehand.

On 21 March, 2007 the 25th IUF Congress unanimously supported an emergency resolution submitted by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT), representing around 14,000 CCE and Coca-Cola workers in the USA.

The resolution demanded, among other things, that CCE and the Coca-Cola Company recognize the right of their union employees to job security, union representation in cases of restructuring, and engage in meaningful dialogue and negotiations with their unions and works councils over a sustainable, long term strategy for growth and employment.

To demonstrate that Coke workers rejected CCE's arbitrary actions, the IBT and the IUF organized an initial symbolic Transatlantic Day of Action for April 2, 2007 and requested support from a number of IUF-affiliated unions representing close to 200,000 Coke workers worldwide. On April 2, workers at CCE plants and distribution sites in the USA, Canada, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Luxembourg as well as at Coca-Cola plants in Guatemala and Uruguay showed solidarity by wearing stickers saying "Tell Coke Every Worker Counts!". In some locations workers and union representatives held gatherings and rallies, distributed leaflets explaining the reasons behind the action, and raised them with local management.

In the **United States**, Teamster members wore the stickers at a number of CCE bottling plants. In some cases the stickers were worn all week. Leading up to April 2 and on the day itself, Coke local Teamster unions also held large public events in New York City (Times Square) and Atlanta and leafleted a number of high profile sports events. These actions received significant coverage by the media.

Photos Top to Bottom

Top & Middle — Local 676 members join Teamsters from the Northeast in NYC to protest Coke's actions.

Bottom — Jack Cipriani, IBT VP and Director of the Beverage Division, addresses the crowd of demonstrators in NYC.

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Local 676 Involved in Contract Negotiations from the Beginning

Eight UPS members from the Lawnside, NJ facility met with Jim Hoffa (Teamsters General President) and Ken Hall (Vice President & Director of the Teamsters Small Package Division) last summer to discuss the upcoming Contract talks.

Currently, our President Howard W. Wells, is a member of both the National UPS Negotiating Committee and the UPS Area Supplement Negotiating Committee.



Ken Hall Gives Updates on UPS & UPS Freight

(LAS VEGAS) — Negotiations for both the 2008 national UPS contract and a contract covering workers at UPS Freight in Indianapolis are progressing well, Teamsters Parcel and Small Package Division Director Ken Hall told the 2007 Unity Conference April 29.

"We will be successful in negotiating strong agreements soon that will protect our members' futures," said Hall, who is also an International Union Vice President. The national UPS contract being negotiated early — it expires August 1, 2008 — will protect members' pensions and health care, Hall said. The national negotiating committee recently began negotiating economic issues after data was collected from the relevant pension, health and welfare benefit funds, he said.

At UPS Freight, Hall said negotiations for a contract for the 125 drivers and dockworkers in Indianapolis will be completed in the near future as well. The Parcel Division is working with the Freight Division on the UPS Freight contract. The committee negotiating the UPS Freight contract will begin negotiating economic issues soon.

"The UPS Freight contract will be a stand-alone contract that will be competitive to the National Master Freight Agreement," Hall said. "It will also protect the jobs and work of our current members."

