



The Local Scene

For Members, Family and Friends of Teamsters Local 676

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Howard W. Wells

An Important Message from our President

These are tough times for Unions! Critics are using the recent economic problems in NJ as an opportunity to attack and bash the Labor Movement.

They say we prospered too much during the good years. That we are not helping enough after the financial collapse of our government. The critics say many insulting things but they forget the important and necessary role we play.

We did not create the problem yet we are willing to help. Labor Unions exist to provide fairness and protect the hard working people of this country, from those who would take advantage of them. We balance the power between employees and large, powerful employers.

When we fight it is not out of anger or greed. We fight to preserve workers right to fair treatment as human beings and not simply another part of the machine. This Local has taken a proactive approach, especially in the Public Sector, to see that our members are treated fairly. We need to separate those who need help from those who just want to use the situation to take advantage of the workers.

As the Labor Movement has grown so has fairness and respect for workers. We have worked tirelessly to ensure that all workers are treated equally regardless of gender, race, heritage and background. At Local 676 we pride ourselves on having a membership as diverse as the State in which they work.

Each member is as important as the next and all deserve the same fair treatment as all of the others. As President of this Local I want to remind you that I have had an open door policy since day one. Each individual is the eyes and ears of this Union. If there is a problem that isn't being addressed or fixed please call me. The phone number is: 856-964-2101 – ext. 12.

I hope everyone has a happy, safe, and healthy summer! As always let us remember our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate during these tough times. Please remember and honor the men and women who sacrifice every day to protect us and our extraordinary country. May God bless them and their families.

Fraternally Yours,

Howard W. Wells
President / Principal Officer
Local 676

Reminders

Withdrawal Cards

If you will be out of work for any extended period, for any reason — request a Withdrawal Card from the Local. This will stop the collection/accumulation of dues. This also avoids your having to pay another initiation fee in the future.

Change of Address

Please notify the Local as soon as possible when you move. A current address is required in order to receive communications from the Local (including this newsletter) and your Teamster Magazine.

Meeting May 16th

The *Local 676 Scholarships* will be presented at this meeting.

Breakfast will be served

Guest speakers will include

Paul D. Moriarity
NJ Assemblyman District 4

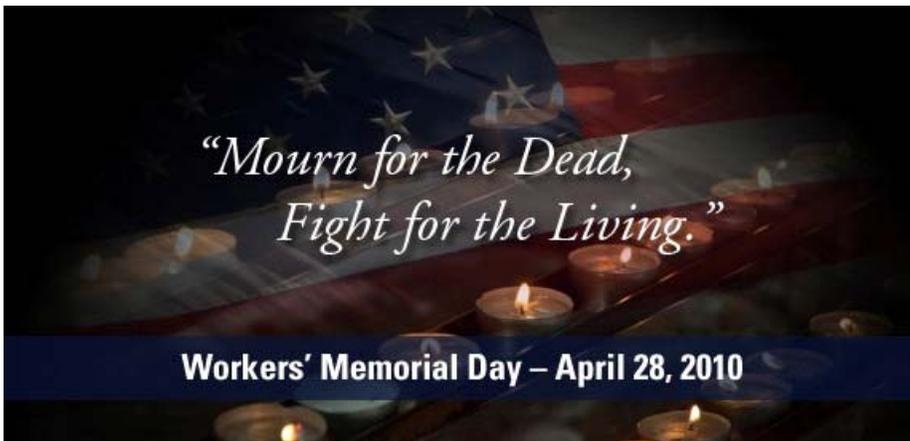
and one of our perennial favorites
Stu Davidson

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JJ Maloney crew**

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The Teamsters Union recognizes April 28 as Workers' Memorial Day — a day to honor the working men and women killed and injured on the job and to fight for worker safety, reducing the number of future accidents.

Background

Since 1989, the labor movement has observed Workers' Memorial Day to remember those who have suffered and died on the job. As we remember those who died in workplace catastrophes, suffered diseases due to exposure to toxic substances or injured in dangerous working conditions, we rededicate ourselves to the fight for safe workplaces. As such, a typical theme for Workers Memorial Day has been "Mourn for the Dead, Fight for the Living."

Decades of struggle by workers and their unions have resulted in significant improvements in working conditions. But the toll of workplace injuries, illnesses and deaths remains enormous. More than 56,000 workers die annually from workplace injuries and illnesses; another 6 million are seriously hurt.

April 28 was chosen because it is the anniversary of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and has been recognized as an international day of remembrance for dead and injured workers since 1996, when a Global Union delegation lit a commemoration candle to highlight the plight of workers at the United Nations.

It has been officially endorsed by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and the International Labor Organization (ILO). Eleven countries or territories formally recognize April 28 as a national observance day: Argentina, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, Dominican Republic, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Spain and Taiwan.

A Workers' Memorial Day is observed in nearly 100 countries.

'Death on the Job' Report: 5,214 Killed at Work in 2008

by Mike Hall, Apr 27, 2010

Each workday, it's likely that 14 workers won't come home because they will be killed on the job, according to the most recent statistics. The AFL-CIO's 19th annual workplace safety report, "Death on the Job: The Toll of Neglect," also reports that in 2008, along with the 5,214, workers killed, another 50,000 workers died from occupational diseases, while at least 4.6 million workers were reported injured, unreported injuries could push that total to as many as 14 million workers.

Released on the eve of Workers Memorial Day and on the heels of four recent workplace tragedies that have claimed the lives of at least 42 workers, the report depicts workplace safety and health laws that are far too weak to protect workers and penalties far too lenient to deter employers.

Pointing to the 29 coal miners killed at Massey Energy Co.'s Upper Big Branch Mine in West Virginia, the seven workers killed at the Tesoro refinery in Washington State, the six victims at the Kleen Energy Systems plant in Connecticut and the 11 oil platform workers who are presumed dead following an explosion of the Transocean Ltd. rig in the Gulf of Mexico, Peg Seminario, AFL-CIO Safety and Health director, told the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee this afternoon: The vast majority of workplace deaths and injuries could be prevented. *(excerpt from full article)*

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More 676 Members Headed for a Well Deserved Retirement



Local 676 Pres. Howard W. Wells presents Salvatore De Blase with a certificate of achievement 28 yrs. & collectible 676 model tractor trailer.



Local 676 Pres. Howard W. Wells presents a certificate of achievement 14 yrs. & collectible 676 model tractor trailer to Bradford Williams who accepted for Joe Bartee.



Evesham Township Retiree Luncheon Guests of Honor

Left to right: Steward Mike Zdep, retirees Nancy Smith, Jimmy Lind, and Mike Chapman with Local 676 Business Agent Tom Lyon in the back.

Nancy was the longtime administrative assistant at the Public Works building. She considered the guys her second family. Jimmy and Mike were mechanics, both of whom had long distinguished careers keeping the equipment running with duct tape and cotter pins. The three received gag gifts from the workers.

TAKE ACTION NOW!



Tell Congress to Save Jobs and Protect Pensions

Recent Retirees

- Anthony Bell Camden Iron & Metal
- Salvatore De Blase L. P. Canuso
- Barry Edmonds Crowley
- Jack Gensler John Jeffrey
- Henry Pease III Allied Bev.
- Lucius Randolph Di Medio
- Russell Trautman Jr Gypsum Haulage

Deceased Members

Retired

- Samuel Pierman Mamco

Teamster Magazine Retiree Alert

Due to the large number of returned copies for bad addresses, moved, etc.

If Retirees wish to continue to receive the magazine you must notify the Local soon!

Call Shirley!

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Save Jobs, Protect Pensions



*Message from:
Teamsters General President
Jim Hoffa*

America and the Teamsters Union face a jobs crisis. What many people are not aware of is that the jobs crisis is connected to the strains placed on pension funds by the Wall Street financial collapse. So to create jobs, we also must protect pensions.

Our nation's retirement plans need help. The financial crisis caused billions of dollars in losses in pension plans. A crisis in retirement security is threatening retirees, older workers and every person who depends on a wage or a wage-earner to survive. We must ensure the solvency of these plans to protect the jobs and security of our workers, Teamster members and retirees.

Treasury Secretary Geithner Backs Pension Funding Relief From Pensions & Investments

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner today endorsed giving "targeted" funding relief to defined benefit pension plans* as a way to create and preserve jobs.



Mr. Geithner made the commitment during a hearing before the House Ways and Means Committee, according to a news release issued by Rep. Earl Pomeroy, D-N.D. Mr. Pomeroy is co-sponsor of a House bill that would provide Defined Benefit* funding relief.

*The Philadelphia & Vicinity Pension Fund is a Defined Benefits Plan.

Visit the web address below to invite your friends to subscribe to the Teamsters eDispatch. & Tell-a-friend!

www.teamster.org/content/take-action

Local 676 Wins Significant Arbitration vs. VWR



Local 676 prevailed in the arbitration of an unjust discharge at VWR in Bridgeport, NJ. Member James Lawless filed a grievance at the time of his discharge.

The grievance was sustained and Brother Lawless was returned to work after being off for 14 months. As the discharge was deemed unjust he was awarded full back pay and benefits!

In the State of NJ you are an "at will" employee. Without a Union & a Contract he would have had little or no legal recourse to regain his employment. Fortunately, Brother Lawless is a Teamster!

Teamsters Local 676 2nd Annual Legal Day was held prior to the March General Membership Meeting

Lawyers from the firm of
Willig, Williams, & Davidson
covering many specialties were available
for consultation by the members



JJ Maloney Crew Contract Meeting

l to r: Mike P, Brian S, Tim K, Bill R, Tony T, Rick Z, Pete J
Bill S, Ray B, Kieth M,