



# 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 3 Issue 4

September — October 2006



Howard W. Wells

## An Important Message from our President

On behalf of the entire Executive Board, and myself, I want to thank all of the members for their vote of confidence at the September 17, 2006 meeting. Electing us to another three-year term is a tremendous show of support.

It lets us know that our vision, goals, and objectives are in line with what you want as members of 676. This sends a powerful message to the employers that Local 676 is a strong and united Local.

We stand ready to fight for your rights and benefits and have won many arbitrations in the past few years. We will continue to meet the challenge of protecting the jobs, wages, pensions and security of the membership.

Teamwork has been the cornerstone of our success. This united effort by Officers, Business Agents, Stewards and members continues to be essential as we move forward on our mission of building a stronger Union.

I look forward to seeing many of you as our "family" gathers for the Holidays at our Third Annual Christmas Party Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup>. Also a date has been chosen for our Third Annual Picnic. It will be held Sunday June 10<sup>th</sup> at Clementon Lake Park.

Details of these events will be posted on Union Bulletin Boards, the Web site and included in future newsletters. If you do not receive the newsletter in the mail please contact the Local. It is possible we do not have your current address.

Once again thank you, all of you, for your trust and support. This is your Union and your Local and it is very important to me that you let me know how you feel and what you want to see in the future.

Fraternally Yours,  
Howard W. Wells

Vote — Vote — Vote — Vote  
Vote — Vote — Vote  
Vote!

Don't sit on your vote—use it!

**"I forgot, I didn't have time, I was busy, Why bother my vote won't change anything."**

The Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution granted women the right to vote in 1920. The struggle to win that right had raged for 72 years and cost countless women and their allies their lives.

For African Americans the right to vote came much later in 1965 after a long and brutal battle.

Many Americans fought the long and bitter battles for the right of every citizen to vote. Yet 40 years later, a large segment of our members continue to trample on this hard won right, by not exercising their right to cast a ballot.

It is far more difficult to fix what is broken as you see by the daily fight for pensions, jobs, and worker safety.

Instead we should be working to elect friends of the working man. Voting is your right, your privilege, and your responsibility. Help make a difference this November!

## International Officers Election Winding Down

**Make Sure you Vote! — Return Your Ballot Today!**

- \* If you have not yet received your ballot
- \* If you have made a mistake on your ballot
- \* If you have lost your ballot

**Call 1—888—428—2006**

**To get a new ballot sent to your home**

**Ballots will be counted on Tuesday November 14th**



**Thanks to all of those who donated Blood in September**

**We met our goal!**

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## Craft News

### UPS Early Contract Negotiations

The negotiations for the next UPS Contract have begun. Howard Wells (Local 676 President) is the Union Chairman for our local supplement and has also been appointed to the National Negotiating Committee.

Areas that will be addressed include the fine tuning of work rules, clarifying “gray” language, promotions to full time jobs, bidding, multiple pay progressions and overtime. The process kicked off Tuesday September 19, 2006 in Detroit. Ken Hall, Director of the Parcel and Small Package Division, and Jim Hoffa, IBT General President, serve as co-chairs.

More than 300 local union leaders who represent Teamsters at UPS reviewed and unanimously accepted non-economic contract proposals on Tuesday October 3 during a meeting in Washington, D.C. On Tuesday October 10, 2006, in Washington, D.C., the National Negotiating Committee exchanged non-economic contract proposals with UPS negotiators.

The non-economic issues address safety and health, working conditions, subcontracting, the company’s use of technology and other areas of concern. However., before the non-economic issues are negotiated, the Teamsters Union wants to first negotiate pensions and health care, which members have identified—in a survey and scientific poll—as top priorities. A schedule of upcoming meetings will be drafted and once dates are determined, the meetings will be posted on the Teamsters web site—www.teamster.org

### Roy’s\* Delivery Notes

\*Roy Kaiser UPS Business Agent

Part time employees have a 3.5 hour guarantee for each shift for which they report on time. I encourage all union employees to take advantage of this guarantee. If management asks you to go home early “paid time worked” and you agree — you forfeit the guarantee.

Full time employees—package car drivers who report to work on time are guaranteed 8 hours pay per the contract. When there are extra drivers—seniority prevails on working or going home—not knowledge of delivery areas.

Harassment, coercion, duress, discrimination, and intimidation are violations of UPS Policy and Contract language. Any employee who feels they are over “audited” or “ridden” by any member of management should speak to your shop steward or call Business Agent Roy Kaiser immediately. Rule of thumb: First work as instructed—then file your grievance. Most smaller issues can be resolved quickly with timely intervention by the Local.

### Construction Update

Classes for Traffic Control Coordinator will take place some time in February. Look for more details in the near future.

#### Are you receiving the prevailing wage?

Ask this question of non-union drivers. It must be a fair playing field and we need your help. This will force non-union contractors to become Union—or at least this will make them pay the prevailing rate. Get a fair shot at the job — be sure the rules are followed.

### Teamsters Health & Welfare of Philadelphia and Vicinity Look for Open Enrollment in November!

### Patco Legislation

The legislation that would require the DRPA to submit to arbitration on contract matters and negotiations, is now a bill. # S1798

The bill was introduced May 8, 2006 and has been referred to the Senate Transportation Committee. Please contact the following Committee members and ask for their support.

The Honorable Nicholas Sacco  
9060 Palisade Avenue  
North Bergen, NJ 07047

The Honorable Fred Madden  
129 Johnson Road, Suite 1  
Turnersville, NJ 08012

The Honorable Ellen Karcher  
400 West Main Street, 3rd Floor  
Freehold, NJ 07728

The Honorable Andrew R. Ciesla  
852 Highway 70  
Brick, NJ 08724

The Honorable Henry P. McNamara  
191 Godwin Avenue, 2nd Floor  
PO Box 68  
Wycoff, NJ 07481

### Support Our Troops

We are once again collecting toiletries for the troops. You can give your items to your shop steward or bring them to the Membership Meeting November 19th. We will see that they get to our brave servicemen and women.

### Members and Families in Need

Please let us know of any members who are “out of luck” or sick or in distress at this time of year. We want to bring them a little cheer for the Holidays.

*The only people to get even with ... are the ones who have helped you.*