



THE NEWS of TEAMSTERS LOCAL 71

Representing Teamster Members in North and South Carolina

Winter 2011

New Officers On The Executive Board At Teamsters Local 71

As a result of the recent Local 71 Officers and Agents election there have been a few changes in Local 71's Executive Board. The present officers of the board are as follows:

TED RUSSELL
President

ERNIE WRENN
Secretary-Treasurer

STEVE BESS
Vice President/BA

FRANKIE FERRELL
Recording Secretary
YRC

JOE EASON JR.
Trustee/BA

RUBY CROSBY
Trustee
Transit Management Inc.

BRYAN BECHTLER
Trustee
UPS Freight

TEAMSTER LOCAL 71 MEMBERS MOVING TO NEW UNION HALL

Local 71 President Ted Russell said, "I know our members are going to be very happy and pleased with their new Union Hall. A number of the members have already expressed their enthusiasm about moving to their new Union Hall".

Local 71 Secretary-Treasurer Ernie Wrenn said, "the new Union Hall is almost finished. We're hoping to start moving in by the middle Of March. The new Union Hall is being built at 2529 Beltway Boulevard in Charlotte.



Local 71 To Start Negotiations With Transit Management of Charlotte Inc. (Cats)



Ted Russell, Alex Stokes, David Johnson, Ruby Crosby, Clarence Stewart, Hasson Trent

Negotiations are about to begin at Transit Management of Charlotte Inc. (Cats). Recently, President of Teamsters Local 71 Ted Russell met with the Shop Stewards to gear up for the negotiations. "We have to prepare now

for these important talks. With the economy the way it is, and companies tightening up and cutting everywhere they can, these negotiations are going to be tough", said Ted Russell. Russell added "these may very well be the toughest negotiations I have ever been in". There are many issues that the members wanted to see changes with. Health care, bidding, pensions, and travel times were the top 4.

Ruby Crosby, Local 71 Trustee said, "Everyone needs to attend meetings and stay informed on what's going on. These are very important negotiations that will affect us".

Monthly Membership Meeting

Monthly Membership Meetings are at 10:00 a.m. the second Saturday of each month. These are the remaining Monthly Membership Meeting dates before the summer break:

Saturday, February 12, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, March 12, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 14, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. (Vote to suspend summer meetings)

Make plans to attend the next meeting and take part in YOUR UNION'S affairs. Additional craft meetings will be scheduled periodically for the members to discuss and go over your contracts, issues, and concerns.

MEETINGS ARE STILL BEING HELD AT 5000 N. TRYON. The Local will notify members when it officially moves to the new address.

Local 71 Wins 3rd Organizing

Victory Within A Year



The latest organizing victory was with the ALSCO RSR drivers in Charlotte. The RSR Drivers voted overwhelming for Teamsters Local 71 representation. Local 71

already represented one facility in Charlotte and now will represent both.

Ted Russell President of Local 71 said, "In these hard times, these drivers, after talking with other ALSCO drivers, have seen the value of a Teamster Contract with better wages, benefits, job security and job protection for them and their families."

Local 71 Organizer Randy Conrad said, "Our Secretary-Treasurer and BA Ernie Wrenn, ALSCO Shop Steward Joe Robertson, and myself met with the drivers and they made up their mind in the very first week of the campaign that being a Teamster is what they wanted and nothing was going to change their mind.

Organizer Conrad, who organized another ALSCO facility 3 years ago in Greensboro, NC also said, "I had the honor again in working with the Bakery and Laundry Conference. This is such a great conference".

Wrenn said, "much appreciation and thanks goes to Dennis Raymond the International Director, Dave Dudas, and Tyronne Brewster for their work they do in the conference, their commitment to organizing, and their assistance. Locals from Florida, to Georgia, to Virginia and all the way to Alaska gave their support with pictures and support petitions".

Russell and Wrenn added, "we are very pleased with Local 71's Organizing Department as our organizing machine rolls on with our 3rd victory with-in a year."

Did You Know ?

Did you know that due to our trade agreement with China that between 2001 – 2008 North Carolina has lost 94,400 job, 2.28 percent of employment, and has 5 of 50 districts with most jobs loss.

Source <http://www.americanmanufacturing.org/in-your-state>

Freight Levels Picking Up With Our Trucking Companies



"Freight levels have picked up some at our trucking companies" said Local 71 President and Freight BA Ted Russell. We still have a long way to go, but it appears that the economy has made some improvement based on recent increases in freight levels. Even the slightest margin of increase is relief for these companies. Russell added "This is good for our members and our companies and with these improvements our companies have brought people back from layoff status as guaranteed in the National Master Freight Agreement."

UPS News Around The Local



Local 71 Vice President and UPS BA, Steve Bess and Trustee UPS BA, Joe Eason have been making their rounds and meeting with members at the centers. Bess is reminding our members to work as directed and if you feel you have a grievance, take notes and file them when you can.

Eason is reminding our members if you have an accident, report it immediately. Eason also is letting our members know, that unless every driver is working on the road and there is no voluntary layoff or cut routes, that there shouldn't be any Driver Helpers and then that's only spike in volume or inclement weather. Both Business Agents are also reminding all their members to bid on your scheduled bid day. If you miss it you have to bid from what is left at the time you bid.

Unions Under Attack In South Carolina

After only being in office for about a week, Gov. Nikki Haley of SC has been quoted that it's no secret that she doesn't like Unions. Her past history backs it up by being with an anti-union law firm and practicing union avoidance for over 14 years. She is now being sued and taken to court by some unions and the AFL-CIO because of remarks she made vowing to keep Unions out of a Boeing plant that is presently under construction in North Charleston, SC. She has vowed to do everything she can to be pro-business and defend the fact that SC is a right to work state. We will keep our members informed as information becomes available.

Teamsters Local 71 Taking Scholarship Applications



Local 71 is currently taking applications for the Teamsters Local 71 Scholarship. The local awards 2 \$500.00 per year, one for a boy and one for a girl, for a maximum value of \$2,000

per scholarship. Completed applications must be returned by May 2, 2011

The Local offers the scholarship to High School Seniors who are dependent children and step children of Local 71 members who have been in good standing in the Local for at least one year. Children of deceased or retired members may also participate.

Stop by the office to pick up an application or you can download one at www.teamsterslocal71.com Also check out other scholarships that are available to Teamster families at Local 71's website.

Did You Know Local 71 Has A Women's Caucus?



The Women's Caucus of Local 71 is very active in the union and the community. They host fund raisers to support their agenda which includes helping others in the

community, strengthening labor laws, building a stronger union work place and organizing. Most recently, they participated in the IBT Women's Conference, the Charlotte Labor Day Parade, second harvest food bank, and serving breakfast and dinner for an area women's homeless shelter.

For more information contact Rank and File Trustee Ruby Crosby at 704-891-6047.

Teamsters Local 71 Has New Website



In an age where nearly every family has access to a computer, having a website for the local union is vital. It is an important tool to

share information with the membership as fast as possible and because of that, Local 71 has launched a new website.

The new website includes sections on organizing, political action, a list of Local 71 officers and staff along with other information.

www.teamsterslocal71.com

TV Shows and Commercials Shooting In The Charlotte Area



A TV pilot "Homeland" has started production in the Charlotte area. If it's a success the series may continued to be filmed here. The Charlotte area offers numerous superb resources and advantages over other areas across the country

and the world that attract production companies. "We are fortunate that the Charlotte area has a lot of production shooting presently going on" said, Local 71 President Ted Russell. Russell added, "currently we have commercials and a TV pilot that is being filmed. This is great for our members and the Charlotte area".



Have You Moved ?

If you have recently moved or have changed your phone number, make sure you let the Local Union know by calling Regina Bumgarner at 704-596-2475 Ext. 23 in the Bookkeeping Department. This will help the Local Union keep you informed on what is going on and mail important information to you.

Your Weingarten Rights



Yes, You Have RIGHTS!
If you are called into a meeting with any management representative and have reason to believe that disciplinary action may

result, read them your Weingarten Rights.
WEINGARTEN RIGHTS

If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that my Union representative or Steward be present at this meeting.

Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions.



In 1975, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled, in the WEINGARTEN decision, that an employee is entitled to have a Union representative present during any interview which may result in his or her discipline. It is up to YOU to insist on Union representation. If you fail to do so, you may waive your rights.

Do The Following:

1. Ask your supervisor if you might be disciplined as a result of the interview. If he says "NO," ask for a written statement to that effect. If he gives you such statement, you must participate in the interview. If not, read him your Weingarten rights, remain for the meeting, take notes, and afterwards immediately contact your Union representative.

2. If he says you might be disciplined but will not allow you to have a Union representative present, read him your Weingarten rights, stay in the room, take notes, and do not respond to any questions. Afterwards, contact your Union representative immediately. If he allows your Union representative to be present, you should participate in the interview.

SOURCE: International Brotherhood of Teamsters Pamphlet.

**Have A Story? Want To Be Heard?
Want To Sound Off?**

Contact Organizer RC Conrad at 336-451-4071
or e-mail Conrad at rconrad71@yahoo.com

Get A Withdrawal Card When Leaving Your Job

Be sure to get a withdrawal card when laidoff, on leave of absence, lengthy medical leave, or quitting your job. The charge for one is only 50 cents but all initiation fees and back dues must be paid before a card is issued.

Call Regina Bumgarner at 704-596-2475 Ext. 23 to obtain a card. Please take care of this as soon as possible after leaving the company.

Teamster Companies In Charlotte

Teamsters Local 71 represents more than 6,000 active and retired members in the Charlotte Mecklenburg area. Below are a few companies that Teamsters Local 71 represents.

KELLOGG'S SNACKS
USF HOLLAND
UPS

ALSCO UNIFORM
ARAMARK UNIFORM
H&M INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS



NORTHERN TOOL
ABF FREIGHT
CATS

UPS FREIGHT
YRC WORLDWIDE
SCHOOL SECURITY
CHARLOTTE TAXI DRIVERS

Contact Information For Teamsters Local 71

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Phone: 704-596-2475 Ext. 27	
Trustee / BA	Joe Eason
Email: joeupsba@hotmail.com	
Phone: 704-596-2475 Ext. 28	
Organizer	Randy Conrad
Email: rconrad71@yahoo.com	
Phone: 704-596-2475 Ext.25	
Bookkeeping / Union Dues	Regina Bumgarner
Email: reginab@carolina.rr.com	
Phone: 704-596-2475 Ext. 23	
Secretary / Insurance / Pension	Adina DiMarzio
Email: adinadimarzio@carolina.rr.com	
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