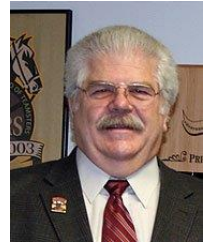




# TEAMSTERS



## Local Union No. 690

*Val Holstrom Secretary-Treasurer*

### APRIL 2014 Newsletter



**The Teamsters UPS National Negotiating Committee, pursuant to Article XII of the IBT Constitution, announced that the 2013 National Master United Parcel Service Agreement, All Supplements, Riders and Addenda are in effect starting April 25, 2014.** The wages contained in the agreement are retroactive to August 1, 2013 and UPS has committed to expediting the checks for Teamster members' retroactive wage increases. The retro check will be a separate check to avoid being taxed at a higher rate. These retro checks are part of the negotiated agreement and therefore not subject to the grievance procedure and timeframes, as some members have been wrongly instructed by misinformed personnel. UPS will begin making retroactive contributions to the health and welfare and pension funds immediately. UPS currently owes over \$300 million to Teamster members and funds. Now Teamsters will be made whole. The agreement contains unparalleled wage and benefit increases. New language offers strong protection from harassment and retaliation. In addition, the new 9.5 language, protections regarding SurePost and all of the other improvements and protections contained in the new agreement will be in effect.

### YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD



**E-Board members, (left to right) Trustee Mike Robinson (FSA) Trustee Al Rossi (Spokane Public Defenders), President Matt Tanner (Franz) Vice President Carol Stone (AMR) Secretary-Treasurer Val Holstrom, Recording Secretary Richardo Lopez (Construction) and Trustee Matt Sturgell (UPS Freight)**



On April 10, Teamsters across the country, **including Local 690 Secretary-- Treasurer Val Holstrom and Representatives Ron Vevoda and Larry Kroetch** (above) visited more than 80 Sysco and US Foods facilities to hear workers' concerns about the proposed merger of the nation's top two food service providers. Hundreds of workers filled out surveys about what's happening in their workplaces.

**The Teamsters are here to voice your concerns. You want the company's' assurance you'll keep your job. You're concerned about warehouse closures. You want to know how a merger will affect your years of service, vacation, and healthcare.**

Sysco's answer to whether the estimated \$600 million in savings from the merger means combining facilities? "It's too early to say."

Join the conversation. "Like" the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SyscoUSFworkers>, follow @SyscoUSFNews on Twitter and join the text network by texting "SyscoUSFnews" to 86466.

**If you are not covered by a Union contract, you are at the mercy of the company.**



Visit our website at [TEAMSTERSLOCAL690.ORG](http://TEAMSTERSLOCAL690.ORG)



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Also available on your tablet or smartphone.



**From the Desk of Secretary-Treasurer  
Val Holstrom**

**Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa** led a powerful delegation of **Teamsters**, including North American school bus workers, in calling on the National Express Group Board of Directors to address the company's poor worker's rights record at its North American subsidiaries. The delegation brought these concerns to the company's Annual General Meeting (AGM) of shareholders in Birmingham, England.

The Teamsters delegation joined forces with British union **Unite**, the **International Transport Federation** and **British National Express** workers, as they raised serious issues with the company's worker rights policies and practices at its North American subsidiaries, **Durham School Services in the U.S.** and **Stock Transportation in Canada**. The Teamsters and major shareholders sponsored a shareholder resolution to improve oversight of the company's worker rights practices. **Major proxy advisors also recommended that shareholders vote against increasing CEO pay, reflecting growing discontent with the Board's oversight of management.**

**"National Express is waging war on workers who want to exercise their basic human right to form a union," Hoffa said. "North American management harasses and intimidates workers and takes shortcuts on safety and working conditions. The men and women who transport our children deserve better. I urge the National Express Board of Directors to improve oversight of this company's operations."**

"This is a business that has tremendous opportunity. Instead, management would rather wage a relentless anti-union campaign that divides its work force, causes costly high turnover and puts safety at risk. We will continue to raise these issues until workers at this company are respected by management," said **Rick Middleton, International Vice President and Chair of the Teamsters' Drive Up Standards** campaign to improve working conditions for school bus and transit workers. **The Teamsters Drive Up Standards** campaign to improve safety, service and work standards in the private school bus and transit industry began in 2006. Since then, more than 36,500 North American school bus and transit workers have become Teamsters.

## Locals 690 & 839 win precedent setting Arbitration against Sysco



**WHEN SYSCO UNILATERALLY IMPLEMENTED A \$500 "SURCHARGE FOR TOBACCO USE" TO THEIR MEDICAL COVERAGE, BUSINESS AGENTS LARRY KROETCH OF LOCAL 690 AND RICH DAVIES OF LOCAL 839 IMMEDIATELY GRIEVED THE ADDITIONAL COST AS A VIOLATION OF THE NEGOTIATED MAXIMUMS FOR THE EMPLOYEE SHARE OF MEDICAL PREMIUMS IN THE CURRENT CONTRACT.**

The case was arbitrated at a hearing in Pasco Feb 20, 2014 where both sides presented evidence and testimony before the Arbitrator. After considering the evidence and the parties' arguments, the Arbitrator found that the Employer violated the CBA when it unilaterally imposed the tobacco surcharge; therefore the Employer must make whole (pay back to the employee) any bargaining unit member who has had the surcharge deducted from his or her pay.

Many Employers have attempted to enact similar "surcharges" and this victory shall safeguard limits placed on the employees cost share of the premiums.



*Pictured here is **Randy Duff**, a 22 year Local 690 member with **Banner Fuel** at the 150 year celebration reenactment of the Civil War 'Battle of Gettysburg' with his Regiment, "Light Artillery, 1st Michigan" firing their 10 lb. "Parrot Gun". Randy has been active for the last 10 years as a Civil War reenactor and portrays either a Union or Confederate Artillery soldier depending on the battle they are recreating. To be a reenactor you must find or make all your own uniforms, fund your travel and pay for the powder for the cannon. Many of the reenacted battles in our area are fought at Deep Creek Farms, 811 North Deep Creek Road. If you're interested in finding the next battle go online [www.wcwa.net](http://www.wcwa.net)*



On March 14, 2014 Business Representatives **Larry Kroetch and Joe Kuhn** attended the Labor and Arbitration Conference in Seattle.

The day consisted of the study of actual arbitration cases that had been decided in recent months with specific over views of arbitration preparation and case building. It was very educational to see 5 different arbitrators hear the facts of a case being presented, rule on the case and then give their reason why they chose to sustain or dismiss the grievance. This training gave new insight on what arbitrators are looking for and how to can improve our chances of winning a case by being better prepared by doing the hard work up front long before it ever gets to arbitration.



**Mike Lee / FSA**  
**Joe VanHout / Central Pre-Mix,**  
**Bill Feehan / FSA**

**Mike Lee** is a **Local 690 Member at FSA** and active Reservist in the Navy. **Mike has been deployed 3 times** in the last 8 years. He served in Iraq 2006-2007 (Operation Iraqi Freedom) 2010-2011 Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom) and in Kuwait (Operation New Dawn). During his last deployment to Kuwait he was tasked with coordinating all Navy Customs going to Afghanistan. Mike had the pleasure of serving in 2006-7 with fellow **Teamster Joe VanHout (Central Pre-Mix)**. Mike also has a fellow co-worker/**Teamster Member at FSA, Bill Feehan whom was also deployed to Kuwait** during his employment with FSA. Mike received numerous honors and medals during his deployments.

**Teamsters Local 690** would like to thank him and all other Teamster members who have served for their country and for the sacrifices they have made on our behalf.

**The Teamsters Union was the first Union to guarantee returning GI's their jobs and seniority rights beginning in WW2**, thus laying a foundation for the current USSERA laws we enjoy today and afforded people like Mike to return to their lives after serving their country.

**"I don't want to have anything to do with those lazy union workers!"**

**News Flash: You better not call 911 when you're in need. Those EMTs, paramedics and dispatchers are most likely union!**



## YRCW Worldwide

February 13th YRCW announced that it has closed on the financing of a new \$700 million term loan and a \$450 million asset-based loan facility, which was the final piece to an improved capital structure.

"This is good news and with the refinancing completed all the components are in place to give the company time to turn around its operations," said Tyson Johnson, Director of the Teamsters National Freight Division. "This was all possible because of our members' willingness to make necessary sacrifices. The modifications and extension of the MOU facilitated a \$300-million debt reduction announced on January 31, and now with this refinancing completed and announced on February 13, the company has extended maturities and more favorable terms that will allow it to put needed capital back into the business. We will redouble our efforts to ensure management puts the savings back into improving operations."



Secretary Treasurer Val Holstom presenting Jack Feher a check in support of Bikers Against Child Abuse. (BACA)

## The Broken Wheel



In memory of our members, retirees and friends lost recently. We offer our sincere sympathies to their families and friends.

May they rest in peace.

STEVEN POLEGAY,  
 CLINTON GIBSON,  
 MICHAEL J. SUTTON  
 JOE GREEN  
 LEONARD PADDOCK  
 MARK J LEWIS  
 LARRY CAINE  
 BRUCE PANNKUK  
 MARK WEIDMAN  
 SHARON MONK

URM  
 LIBERTY LAKE POLICE DEPT  
 RETIREE  
 AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE  
 RETIREE FROM COCA-COLA  
 RETIREE FROM UPS  
 RETIREE FROM URM  
 FRANZ BAKERY  
 FRANZ BAKERY  
 CONSTRUCTION