



News from Local 70

Executive Board

Marty Frates Secretary Treasurer
Dominic Chiovare President
Jim Fried Vice President
Ruben Bustillos Recording Secretary
Rich Fierro Trustee
Kelsey Frazier Trustee
Henry Buchanan Trustee

Business Agents

Lou Marchetti
Felix Martinez
Mark Hawkins

Michael Garcia Conductor
Ray Woodruff Warden

400 Roland Way, Oakland, CA 94621

December 2016-January 2017

Phone 510-569-9317

2016 election round-up



Local 70 Officers and Officials after getting elected by acclamation for new three-year term beginning in 2017. (Photo by C. Vigil)



Marty Frates and Rich Fierro do Precinct Walking for Malia Vella, a Local 856 member who won her election for the Alameda City Council with the most votes of any candidate.

November 2016 brought to a conclusion many elections that will affect every member of Local 70. We are very grateful to all the members who participated in these elections. Our vote is absolutely the most important aspect of every election.

National and State Elections

Donald Trump was elected President. Even though Hillary Clinton won the popular vote by upwards of two million votes, Trump won the electoral college, which is how presidents are elected. The Republicans also maintained control of the House and Senate. National "Right to Work" was part of Donald Trump's agenda; if they pass it, which is likely, it will be extremely harmful to all workers. Trump will be sworn in on January 20, 2017. We will definitely stay active in the process and work to ensure that our jobs and our contracts stay strong.

Kamala Harris was elected as our new Senator from California replacing Barbara Boxer. Barbara was a champion of workers, and we are sure Kamala will maintain those values.

Teamsters National Election

As this paper goes to press, the ballots have been counted for the reelection of General President James Hoffa, Secretary-Treasurer Ken Hall, and the National IBT Executive Board. The vote has not yet been certified, but the Hoffa slate is ahead by close to 6,000 votes. All of the West Coast Vice-Presidents were elected by acclamation at the convention, as the opposition did not receive enough delegate votes to qualify for the ballot.

Local 70 Election

Nominations for the next three-year term of our Local were held on November 5, 2016. Unlike other Locals who only elect Executive Board members, every position in Local 70 is up for election.

For the first time in our history—we were established in 1903—the entire team of Officers and Officials was unopposed. The group will begin their new term in January, 2017.

Political Action Report

By LOU MARCHETTI

What had to be the longest election ever is finally over! On the federal level, the Democrats took quite a beating. We now have President-Elect Trump with a Republican-controlled Senate and House of Representatives. We have to prepare for the worst. Besides at least one Supreme Court appointment, there will be openings to fill at the NLRB and, God forbid, a move to pass National Right to Work.

Here in California and especially in the Bay Area, we once again did a great job of getting labor-friendly candidates elected. We picked up three seats in the State Assembly, giving us a two-thirds super-majority,

and maintaining a majority in the Senate.

On the local level, Malia Vella, a Representative and Staff Attorney for Teamsters Local 856, won a seat on the Alameda City Council. She ran a great campaign and we congratulate Malia on her victory. We also were successful in helping to re-elect Grey Harris to the Alameda School Board. Unfortunately, Brian Azevedo lost in his bid to replace Jim Prola on the San Leandro City Council, and Dennis Popalardo was not elected to the Alameda School Board. It wasn't because a lack of effort by Local 70. We hosted numerous phone banks and provided precinct walkers for the campaigns. We would like to thank all of you who volunteered your

time to these worthy candidates.

Organized labor and working families are going to face huge challenges in the next four years. Right now, many Americans are throwing their hands up in disbelief and are ready to give up. We can't afford to do that. We, the working people of America, have always risen to whatever challenges were put before us. While we can't rest on our past accomplishments, let's not forget them either.

Once again we have to remember what Labor Organizer Joe Hill said over 100 years ago: "Don't mourn, organize!"



President's Report

Dominic Chiovare

Updates around the local

CONTRACT UPDATES

VERITIV / xpedx

The members at Veritiv/xpedx finally ratified their new five-year contract, after ongoing talks that began back in January. The negotiating team included Business Agents Mark Hawkins, Lou Marchetti, Stewards Patrick Hickman, Julian Manjarrez and I.

The members will receive a wage increase of \$2.40/hour over the five years, plus a \$750 ratification bonus. The employee share of the health and welfare will increase by 3% by the end of term. We were able to maintain all other benefits.

VERITIV / UNISOURCE

After numerous days of negotiations, Business Agents Mark Hawkins, Lou Marchetti, Steward Ken Moudy and I reached an agreement that our members ratified at Veritiv/Unisource. This agreement dovetails the xpedx/Livermore drivers and the Unisource/Pleasanton drivers onto one seniority list under the Veritiv banner.

In order to bring the xpedx and Unisource Drivers to the same hourly wage and pension rate, some of the drivers' hourly wages will increase \$1.46 to \$4.22 throughout the agreement. The pension rates will be equalized during the term of the agreement.

SERVICE WEST

Stewards Ed Bueno, Tony Castillo and I have been in ongoing negotiations with Service West. We have a new four-year agreement that the members unanimously ratified. The agreement provides for a \$0.70/hour increase in wages each year. The pension contributions will increase by \$0.30/hour each year, bringing them to \$10.39 per hour total in pension contributions. The current health benefits will be maintained.

ALL MODULAR

I recently signed a great first contract with our newest employer, All Modular Systems, located in Hayward. This is a project-moving company that moves commercial businesses, warehouses, movies, and provides Set-Deco for trade shows and theatrical shows. The four-year agreement includes yearly wage increases of \$0.70/hour and pension increases of \$0.30/hour. Drivers start at \$28.30 per hour in wages and the

pension contribution is \$9.49/hour. The new members will remain in the company health and welfare plan that provides medical, dental, prescriptions, vision and short- and long-term disability benefits.

RELIANCE METALS

Business Agent Mark Hawkins, Steward Brian Crisp and I have been in negotiations with Reliance Metals throughout the past few months, pushing hard to reach an agreement. We have completed 95% of the language changes and are now starting on economics. Our goal is to conclude these negotiations before the end of the year.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AT LOCAL 70

ORGANIZING

Rich Fierro, Kelsey Frazier and Henry Buchanan are geared and ready to pursue any viable leads. Members who have leads, please contact one of them at 510-568-5494.

STEWARD MEETINGS

Vice President Jim Fried has arranged for Western Conference Pension Chairman Chuck Mark to provide a pension update for the stewards and interested members at 9:00 a.m., before the next scheduled Saturday Membership Meeting, which is scheduled for Saturday March 25, 2017.

RETIREE CLUB

The Local 70 Retiree Club's next meeting is Wednesday December 21, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. in Local 70's auditorium. Following the meeting is lunch and a raffle. These meetings are always filled with great conversation and stories. All retirees are invited to drop by and check it out.

POLITICAL ACTION

Business Agent Lou Marchetti and Trustee Rich Fierro, Local 70's Political Coordinators, will be keeping the membership updated on the President-elect Donald Trump's policy changes and the effect they will have on our members and the labor movement.

Reminder

The next membership meeting is Thursday, December 15 at 7 p.m.



Members take it outside when the Local 70 nomination meeting is too big for our auditorium! (Photo by C. Vigil)



Local 70 Vice President Jim Fried with longtime Teamster friend and ally San Leandro Council member Jim Prola.

Local 70 members



D.H.L. members at contract proposal meeting



D.H.L. members show their Teamster pride.

Members in action



Attorneys Dennis Popalardo and Justin Litvac (Center) with members from Cal Waste Solutions and Waste Management after giving a seminar on Workers Comp rights at Local 70.



UPS Freight clerks review contract before voting to join the union. Welcome to Local 70!



Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Marty Frates



What we face in the years ahead

LOCAL 70 ELECTION

On behalf of the Officers and Officials, we want to thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve the membership. We appreciate the faith and trust you have in us and encourage your input to make our local the best it can be.

THE IBT ELECTION

The preliminary vote count is in and the Hoffa/Hall Slate is leading and should win. Local 70 members did an outstanding job supporting the Hoffa/Hall Slate. We thank you for your support. Nationally, however, the members are sending a clear message that they are unhappy with the leadership, similar to the recent presidential election.

We, at Local 70, hear that message loud and clear. We have to go in a new direction and provide the leadership to do so. Jim Hoffa needs to make some serious changes and surround himself with a staff that can relate to the needs of our members and provide positive direction and leadership. The real issues we face are:

PENSIONS

Tell the real history of why some pension plans, like the Central States, are in trouble. Employer and Union Trustees have to assume some responsibility. I believe the real problem has been the government for the following reasons: deregulation of the trucking industry which caused most of the union carriers to go out of business. Union employers couldn't compete with those that paid lower wages and offered little or no health and welfare, pensions, holidays, or sick leave, and were effectively run out of business. The result has been a dramatic drop in members and contributions and an increase in retirees creating a financial crisis. In my opinion, the government created the crisis and has an obligation to help fix it and support our members. The government has an obligation to provide a low interest rate "loan" to bail the plan out. Our members and retirees should not have to suffer for something they did not cause. The government had no trouble bailing out Wall Street so they should have no problem bailing out retirees.

THE GIG ECONOMY

This is in major threat to everyone. Business models like Uber and OnTrac are a disaster waiting to happen. Ontrac Trucking cut the shipping rates of UPS by 60%. This is possible only because

they use owner-operators and 1099-employees so that they don't have to pay payroll taxes, Social Security, Medicare, Worker's Compensation, state disability, health and welfare, pension, vacations or holidays. It all falls on the employee!

What are the long-term ramifications of such business models? The loss of jobs, our tax structure being undermined and underfunded, further weakening of Social Security, Medicare, workers' compensation and disability programs—all of which will go broke! It also threatens our health and welfare and pension plans because of the potential loss of jobs and participation!

AUTOMATION

Driverless trucks, drones, and robots seem to be within reach in the near future. Uber projects driverless cars within 10 years. We need to be politically involved to protect our jobs so we do not become extinct!

POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT

This will be the most crucial thing we do. Some of the real challenges we face are:

- Saving the Affordable Care Act; flawed as it is, repeal of this Act is a threat to our existing health and welfare plans.
- Fighting National Right to Work laws, which will become a reality if we are not mobilized like never before.
- Dealing with appointments of anti-union Supreme Court judges and NLRB representatives. These could have potentially significant impacts on the labor industry.

Local 70 respects the rights of its members to vote for who they want, however, we are in a battle for the protection of our jobs. We ask that you listen to and support our recommendations. Our primary goal and objective is to protect you and your job.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

With all the bad news of the Trump election and what it may mean for working people and unions, we can feel proud of our recent union election victories described throughout this paper.

Let us enjoy the holidays with family and friends and be prepared to stand up as Teamsters and continue the fight for our rights in the new year.

SAVE THE DATE



February 11th, 2017 • 9:00 am
Teamsters Local 70's Auditorium

At the River I Stand

A documentary examining the 1968 sanitation workers strike that brought Martin Luther King, Jr. to Memphis at a pivotal point in the civil rights movement.

Trustees Update

by KELSEY FRAZIER, HENRY BUCHANAN & RICH FIERRO



Trustees Kelsey Frazier, Henry Buchanan and Rich Fierro

Continuing to strengthen the union

As 2016 comes to an end we are excited to report that our Local remains in solid financial condition. We are continuing to move forward with our solar project, carefully examining every aspect of this project, because it is a substantial amount of membership money.

2017 will present many opportunities and challenges for our Local. Many of our larger industries (Waste, Package, and Freight) will be open for contract renegotiation. Even though some of these contracts are nationwide, they also have local supplements that are extremely important. We also will continue our

efforts to modernize the local in an effort to further “go green”.

We also will continue our new member orientation, and the educational seminars Vice President Jim Fried coordinates.

Save the date for June 17, 2017. That will be our annual “Teamster Day at the Ballgame” next year. We will have more details early next year.

In closing, we would like to express our gratitude for the election by acclamation that we received from the membership for the term commencing in January, 2017.

Steward Appreciation Breakfast draws packed house



More than 60 Stewards attended the annual Steward Appreciation Breakfast, held at the Local 70 Auditorium on October 15, 2016.



Western Region Vice President Rome Aloise addresses Stewards at the breakfast about the importance of getting out the vote, both for the general election and Marty newfor the Teamster election.

Congrats to Local 70's Harry Polland/Robert Morales scholarship winner

Teamsters Local 70 was proud to award this year's Harry Polland/Robert Morales scholarship to Caitlin Oberman, daughter of long-time steward at Livermore Sanitation (LSI) Henry Oberman.

“I think it's only fitting that the first year that Robert Morales' name is honored, we have a well-deserving daughter of a garbage man winning this award,” said Business Agent Felix Martinez.

“I've watched my father get up and go to work every day so I could have this opportunity,” said Caitlin, and her father proudly responded, “The Teamsters helped pave the way.”

Caitlin has enrolled at UCLA to major in Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology. She graduated second in her class at East Union High School with a 4.35 GPA. This brilliant young lady was also awarded a Hoffa Bootstrap Award for another \$1000.

The scholarship was originally named for Harry Polland, Joint Council 7's longtime economist and a giant in the world of collective bargaining.



Henry and Caitlin Oberman show off the scholarship check that Caitlin was awarded.

His creativity and commitment to working men and women can still be found in the language of the freight, food processing, chain store, small package, liquor contracts, and many other collective bargaining agreements.

The Joint Council decided to also recognize Robert Morales

after he died in 2015. Morales had served as Secretary-Treasurer of JC7 and Teamsters Local 350, as well as Director of the IBT's Solid Waste Division. He negotiated some of the best waste contracts in the country and tirelessly lobbied the City and County of San Francisco for workers' rights.

The Harry Polland/Robert Morales Scholarship is intended as a tribute to their efforts to ensure that Teamster jobs always provide the wages and benefits necessary to support families and enable Teamsters to send their children to college.

The Officers and Officials at Local 70 congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Oberman and wish Caitlin much success. Go Bruins!



For updates between newspapers, go to the Local 70 website: www.teamsterslocal70.org

Did you move? Tell us your new address!

Don't miss out on important information distributed to members by mail and e-mail. Keep your address, telephone number and e-mail updated in the following ways:

- ▲ By the web: www.teamsterslocal70.org
- ▲ By E-mail: ibt70@teamsterslocal70.org
- ▲ In person or U.S. Mail: 400 Roland Way, Oakland, CA 94621

For Local 70 members who are sick or hurt; We want to hear from you—you may have benefits coming.

SICK BENEFIT FUND

Monthly Meetings—2nd Tuesday at 11 a.m.—3 p.m.

1-800-243-1350 or 510-569-9317

To be eligible for Sick Benefits, claims must be filed at Local 70's office within thirty (30) days of disability. Also, dues for the previous month must have been paid on time. For more information, see the Sick Benefit Fund Bylaws, Section 4.