

RETIREE



BULLETIN

BAY AREA RETIREE CHAPTER

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

Local #79 ♦ 5818 E. Martin Luther King Blvd. ♦ Tampa, Florida 33619
Phone: (813) 621-1391 Ext 192 E-Mail to: barc79@aol.com

MEETINGS 1st WEDNESDAY AT 10:00 a.m. ♦ FEB - APR - JUNE - AUG - OCT - DEC

April, 2016



MEETING NOTICE

On Wednesday, April 6, 2016 we will have our General Membership meeting at 10:00 a.m.. As always, the meeting will be held at Local 79's meeting hall located at 5818 E. MLK Blvd., Tampa, FL 33619. We will have our covered dish luncheon after the meeting. Also, there will be a guest speaker and some info about the pension problem.

WANT TO SAVE MONEY ON INSURANCE?

In keeping with our goal of helping our members, we are pleased to have Pam Mellott as our guest speaker at the April meeting. She is the manager of the well known and respected insurance agency, Adcock-Adcock. In addition, she will probably bring other representatives of the company with her to fully cover how to save money on your insurance. They intend to provide information you need on discounts available to retirees that are not often disclosed. They will assist you with simple explanations of your coverages and also how to protect yourselves from fraud.

Adcock-Adcock Insurance Agency, Inc. has been in business over 40 years. You don't want to miss this way of saving money in today's economy.

INFORMATION NEEDED

I have to repeat this from the February newsletter because of its importance. We really need to have your information in order to keep you informed regarding such things as news of the pension battle. This past weekend I had news to send out about the pension and had only a small portion of e-mail addresses. Even if you gave us the information before please do so again.

There is some help that the Retiree's Club needs from you.

1. When you move please give us your new address. This alone will help keep the cost of postage down.
2. The same with your phone numbers, please keep us updated on any changes of them.
3. Give the Club your e-mail address and keep it updated also.

All of the above can be done with the membership form that is usually in the last pages of the newsletter. You can also send it to us on your computer by e-mail to barc79@aol.com or by phone at 813-621-1391, extension 192.

NEXT PAGE, PROTECT OUR PENSION RALLY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

RETIREES GO TO CONGRESS

You may have heard some of the problems that the potential pension cuts are causing now or will call in the future. This one went before the Senate Finance Committee recently.

Lawmakers heard the story of Ohio resident Rita Lewis, whose husband Butch was a 40-year truck driver for USF Holland and a leader of the Retired Teamsters of Southwest Ohio Pension Committee. Butch Lewis, facing a 40 percent pension reduction himself, fought to stop these unfair retirement cuts for months before he died of a stress-induced massive stroke last New Year's Eve.

But Mrs. Lewis also detailed the struggles of countless other retired Teamsters who are facing financial ruin if these retirement cuts are implemented by Central States Pension Fund (CSPF) or for that matter, any other multi-employer pension fund that faces such drastic cuts as by CSPF. Many would lose their homes, not be able to cover their prescription drugs cost and struggle to make ends meet if the Treasury Department were to approve Central States application in May. Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa said these true-life stories make it clear what is at stake with these proposed pension cuts and he urged lawmakers to fix the problem so the 270,000 affected people will be able to live their golden years in dignity.

"These people gave up higher pay and vacation time while they worked hard so they could build a nest egg for retirement." Hoffa said. "They planned for their future and now are being penalized for it. A promise is a promise. Authorities must stop CSPF from implementing this devastating plan."

NOW IT'S OUR TURN! WE FOUGHT FOR WHAT WE GOT SO NOW WE FIGHT TO KEEP IT! THAT'S THE TEAMSTERS WAY.

You have probably read or heard somewhere about some groups of Teamsters going to Washington to protest the cuts that CSPF want to make. Well, Washington hasn't seen any large group of Teamsters this year. **UNTIL NOW!**

There are busloads of Teamsters going to Washington on April 14 to protest the pension cuts for retirees proposed by CSPF. These Teamsters are coming from all over the parts of USA that the CSPF covers. All local unions in Florida are furnishing busses to send retirees to Washington or combining with some of the small locals to do so.

TRIP INFO KNOWN AT THIS TIME:

Local 79 is furnishing the charter bus, sandwiches, snacks, and water. This is at a cost of approximately \$140.00 per person.

We have to pay for our own hotel room on the way back and dinner going up and back. We are negotiating now with different hotels to keep the rooms as cheap as possible. But they will cost about \$100 plus taxes, double beds with double occupancy so the cost can be split between you. If you do not want to partner with anyone then you must pay the full price yourself. In addition to cheaper room rates, we are negotiating for free breakfast included in the room rate. We are still working on obtaining lunch on the way back.

(Continues on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

BUS SCHEDULE & INFO:

The bus will leave Local 79 no later than 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 And you must be at the Local Union by 1:00 p.m. in order to have everything to leave by 3:00 p.m. It will be an overnight bus ride to be there before the rally.

The buses have two rows of two seats, all facing forward and the isle down the middle. High back bucket reclining seats and with AC/heat, AM-FM stereo, on-board restroom and CD-DVD players with drop down TV's. This is about as comfortable as a bus can be on a long distant trip.

Our return trip will begin right after the rally and continue as far as the drivers hours will allow and spend the night at the hotel. We will probably leave about 6:00 a.m. Friday and come home. It will be late when we return to the union hall.

PROTECT OUR PENSIONS RALLY

I have enclosed the flyer from the Protect Our Pensions committee with all the details that we know at this time. I would not get too excited about the Capital Skyline Hotel be it is in the \$300.00+ per dollar night range.

If you get on mycspensionhandsoff.com web site you will notice it is dedicated to Butch Lewis, the retiree that died from a stroke during the time he was fighting for Teamsters retirees.

This was started by a group of Ohio Teamsters that wanted to fight for everyone's pension and named it Protect Our Pensions.

The least we can do is go to D.C. and do what Teamsters have always done. Fight for our pensions every step of the way.

GET YOUR SPOT ON THE BUS

If you want to go on the bus with us to Washington, please do one of the following:

1. Use your computer and send us your name, address, phone number and best time to call, e-mail address and if you want a room by yourself or get a partner to split the cost.
2. Same information but mail to; Teamsters Local Union 79
5818 E MLK Blvd
Tampa, FL 33619
3. Same information but phone in to 813-621-1391, ext. 192. Please, if you phone in the info speak plainly and slowly or leave your name and phone number and I will call you back ASAP.

Your e-mail address is important to pass on information to you fast. In case of schedule changes, or other important information, this could be necessary.

After we receive the above information from you, we can let you know how much the hotel room will be and you can send payment in to the Local Union's office.

Please keep in mind the bus only holds 56 passengers and we have to use two of those seats for other purposes. That leaves us with only 54 seats to fill so make your request as soon as possible. We don't have that much time.

It will be a tiresome trip but it is worth the effort. We never give up when it comes to our wages, benefits and working conditions.

WHAT'S NEW IN CONGRESS

The House Budget Committee approved a fiscal 2017 budget resolution by a 20-16 vote on Wednesday, March 16. The budget provides a \$1.07 trillion in discretionary spending for fiscal 2017 and proposes deep cuts in the years ahead to health care programs. Cuts include the elimination of "Obamacare" coverage for millions of people; transforming Medicaid to a state block grant; fast tracking cuts to Social Security; and transforming Medicare into a voucher-like system for future retirees.

It marks a victory for Budget Committee Chairman Tom Price (R-GA), as well as for Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI), who has made returning to an orderly budget and appropriations process a top priority. However, *Politico* reports "that victory may be fleeting."

Ultra-conservative Reps. Dave Brat (VA) and Marlin Stutzman (IN) were the only Republicans to vote against the budget, joining all Democrats. Many conservatives oppose it, saying it calls for too much spending, and some GOP lawmakers who supported the bill in committee have said they did so as a favor to leadership but would oppose it on the House floor.

In recent weeks, Rep. Price and other Republican leaders have tried to address the demand for further spending reductions by proposing \$30 billion in cuts to mandatory programs like Medicare and Social Security. Those reductions would theoretically offset increases in spending that were part of an agreement with President Obama last fall.

On Monday night, hours before the House Budget Committee unveiled a budget for 2017, members of the hard line House Freedom Caucus had issued a statement saying they would oppose the plan because it adhered to that agreement.

In the end, the budget was approved after a marathon markup during which committee Democrats offered a total of 25 amendments, all of which were rejected. Some of these amendments included a plan to reduce prices of prescription drugs and expand earned Social Security benefits. The budget could reach the House floor next week if leadership can round up the votes, but doing so will be difficult.

ON THE NEXT THREE PAGES...

On the next page (page 5) is the flyer that we received from the IBT and the Protect Our Pension committee giving the details of the rally in Washington, D.C.

On page 6 is the form used for anyone that has not paid their club dues for this year, or wish to join, or to update your information such as address, phone number or e-mail address.

On page 7 is a form for joining the Florida Alliance of Retired American or FLARA as we call it. This is the organization that really works hard for senior citizens and the working people. The cost is \$10.00 per year, a price you can't beat. You are kept informed of what they are doing to you in Congress with the "Friday Alert" sent by e-mail. Join FLARA and keep up with the 3 ring circus called U.S. Government.

TEAMSTERS

TO RALLY IN WASHINGTON, D.C. TO PROTECT THEIR PENSIONS

Join Your Brothers and Sisters in Washington to Demand Congress Block Central States Pension Fund from Cutting Your Pension!

Date: THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016

Time: Speaking program from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Grounds will be accessible prior to the start of the rally

Location: United States Capitol, West Front Lawn

Hotel: Capitol Skyline Hotel *(limited room block available until March 14)*
10 I Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20024
(202) 488-7500
Please reference event number **6871** when booking.



For more information contact:

Bob Amsden
bobamsden@wi.rr.com
(414) 688-5010

Mike Walden
mjw249@aol.com
(330) 801-1108

**PLEASE, USE THIS FORM ONLY IF YOU
HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 2016 DUES, OR WISH TO
JOIN OR TO UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION**

**BAY AREA RETIREES CHAPTER
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Spouse's Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone ____ - ____ - ____ Cell ____ - ____ - ____

Retired From Local Union No. _____ Year Retired _____

E-Mail Address _____

**Your dues for 2016 are \$30.00. Make your check payable to
Bay Area Retirees Chapter and mail to:**

**BARC Treasurer
c/o Teamsters Local Union No. 79
5818 E. Martin Luther King Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33619-1033**



Tony Fransetta, President
12773 W. Forest Hill Blvd., #211
Wellington, Florida 33414
561-792-8799; Fax:(561) 792-8797
Contactus@flara.org

THE FLORIDA ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Florida Alliance for Retired Americans (FLARA), a statewide non-profit organization based in Wellington, Florida, actively pursues and promotes legislation and public policies that are in the best interest of current and future retired Floridians. Through the active civic involvement of it's over 200,000 members, FLARA advocates programs and activities at all levels of government to prepare for the growing population of older Floridians who desire to remain self-sufficient.

FLARA has over 200,000 members in the State of Florida through individual memberships and club affiliations.

Our primary purpose is to assist and encourage seniors to be active participants in the life of their community and to protect the rights of seniors in Florida and across the country.

FLARA is affiliated with the National Alliance for Retired Americans, which is one of the largest organizations in the country speaking and working for America's elderly and retired workers.

****To become a member of FLARA, please fill out the form below and return to:***

FLARA
12773 W. Forest Hill Blvd., Suite 211
Wellington, Florida 33414

(561) 792-8799 office; (561) 792-8797 fax; contactus@flara.org e-mail

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$10.00 PER YEAR (Spouses count as one membership)

NAME(S) - _____
ADDRESS - _____
PHONE - _____ FAX - _____
E-MAIL - _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Date Paid: _____ Amount Paid: _____ Check # _____
12773 West Forest Hill Blvd Suite 211 Wellington, FL 33414



Bay Area Retiree Chapter
5818 E Martin Luther King Blvd.
Tampa, Florida 33619



To Serve and Improve
Our Members Life

IMPORTANT

PENSION CUT INFORMATION INSIDE

**PROTECT OUR PENSION RALLY
IN WASHINGTON D.C. APRIL 14**