

# 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](mailto:barc79@aol.com)

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



June, 2017

## NOTICE OF MEETING CHANGE

WE WILL HAVE OUR RETIREE'S  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
ON A DIFFERENT DAY IN JUNE.  
WE WILL MEET ON THURSDAY,  
JUNE 8, 2017 AT 10:00 a.m. WE WILL  
ALSO HAVE OUR COVERED DISH  
LUNCHEON ON THAT DAY AFTER  
THE MEETING.

All of our meetings are held at the  
Teamsters Local Union No. 79  
located at 5818 E. MLK Blvd., Tampa,  
FL 33619 unless otherwise noted.  
After the business meeting we will  
have our covered dish luncheon.  
Then we can have some good  
conversation and tell a few "war"  
stories with our fellow retired  
Teamsters.

Bring your spouse or a guest and  
don't forget the COVERED DISH or a  
good dessert. Come on out and enjoy  
yourself and maybe learn something  
about what's going on within the  
Teamsters and the retirees.

**DON'T FORGET! IT IS  
ON THURSDAY IN JUNE.  
HOPE TO SEE YOU.**

## HISTORY OF LOCAL 79 HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR LOCAL UNION?

If you were asked when and where was  
Teamsters Local Union #79  
chartered, most of you would  
probably say it was 1936 in Tampa,  
Florida. You would be partially right  
but mostly wrong.

When the International Brotherhood  
of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen,  
and Helpers of America (IBT) was  
born in 1903 so was Local 79.

The local union was originally  
chartered on October 1, 1903 in  
Virden, Illinois. At that time we were  
known as a Team Drivers Local. The  
vast majority of the members drove  
team wagons pulled by horses. On  
these wagons were deliveries  
consisting of milk, grocery goods,  
alcohol, food supplies, animal feed,  
as well as general merchandise. For  
the next 33 years Local 79 criss-  
crossed America, travelling 8,786  
miles from Virden, Illinois to Tampa,  
Florida, with stops in four other cities  
before settling in Tampa.

Local 79 has a very interesting  
history, not only from 1903, but, also  
from 1936 when it settled in Tampa.  
Read on for some more history.

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In June of 1938, Local 79's President, Eddy Contreras, along with other Union leaders participated in a "Bowl of Rice" fund raiser for the starving Chinese citizens who are under attack by the Empire of Japan. The Unions raise \$100.00 and make the headlines in the Tampa Tribune for their efforts.

In May 1941, Local 79 members as well as other Union shipbuilding workers build and launch the US Navy ship Kilauea from Hookers Point Shipyard in Tampa. The biggest majority of Local 79's membership is employed in shipbuilding.

May/June 1957, 500 Local 79 go on strike at Patrick Air Force Base near Cocoa, Florida. 1,500 Union construction workers honor Local 79's picket line.

Health and Welfare payments for Local 79 members at Arthur Lloyd Trucking total \$2.25 per week per member.

Local 79's Secretary Treasurer and Business Agent, John Walker's salary was \$48.00 per week.

In June of 1961, Jaime Solano, Jr. gains employment at Howard Hall Trucking and immediately starts talking to the men about becoming Teamsters.

NOW – Brother Solano is still active in promoting the Union at age 93.

**WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LOCAL 79'S HISTORY? COME TO THE MEETING ON THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2017 AT 10:00 a.m.**

## FAMOUS LABOR QUOTES

**"Every advance in this half century: Social Security, civil rights, Medicare, aid to education, one after another, came the support and leadership of American Labor." Jimmy Carter**

**"In our glorious fight for civil rights, we must guard against being fooled by false slogans as the right to work, it provides no rights and no works. It's purpose is to destroy Labor Unions and the freedom of collective bargaining. We demand this fraud be stopped." Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**"We are starving while we work, so we might as well starve while we strike." 1909 Garment Workers strike banner.**

**"Really, what we would do is to take Unions out at their knees so they don't have the resources to fight these battles." Americans for Prosperity (aka Koch Brothers)**

## LABOR NEWS

**NLRB - According to news reports, the Trump administration has submitted Marvin Kaplan and William Emanuel for FBI background, and it plans to nominate them by June to fill a pair of vacancies at the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). The administration hopes to have the new members confirmed by the Senate before the August recess. Kaplan is currently counsel to the commissioner of the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission. He previously served as the Republican workforce**

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policy counsel for the House Education and the Workforce Committee.

Emanuel is a shareholder at the management firm Littler Mendelson PC in Los Angeles. He has represented business groups seeking to invalidate state laws that his clients say allow unions to trespass on their property.

The five-seat board currently only has three members: Chairman Phillip A. Miscimarra (R) and Members Mark Gaston Pearce (D) and Lauren McFerran (D). The vacant seats are reserved for Republicans. The Board is generally composed of three Members of the President's party and two from the other party.

As the new chairman of the NLRB, Miscimarra has the power and the backing to roll back the board's recent, mainly pro-union changes, a prospect that has business groups cheering and labor advocates gloomy.

It will be a while before Miscimarra can do much damage. Even though he is the chairman, he is still in the minority because the two current members, both Democrats, outnumber him. He will have to wait until Trump nominates and the Senate confirms two Republicans to fill the remaining open seats.

#### OT VERSUS COMP TIME

Anyone working on a Union job may not have to worry about this unless the administration in power now changes the laws. And they have talked about it so we will wait and see what happens in Wonderland, DC. Many business owners think they're

helping overtime eligible employees by offering them time off (comp time) instead of paying them overtime, but they are actually putting themselves at risk of a lawsuit. They also may think that it will save them money to offer comp time instead of paying OT. They may be surprised to learn that by giving comp time they are really violating the law, which requires the employer to pay eligible non-exempt employees time-and-a-half if the employee puts in more than 40 hours in a workweek. Violations of this law is rising. It is a common violation of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act. In the fiscal year of 2016, 10,884 overtime violations nationally resulted in the payment of \$171.9 million in back pay to employees, up from 10,496 workers in 2015, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division. The law is clear but what will happen if this administration tries to expand it and force it into labor agreements. That is when we will see a big court battle between the government and labor unions.

#### TRUCKERS FEEL LIKE "THROWAWAY PEOPLE"

There are 1.7 million men and women working as long haul drivers in the country. Yet truckers, high up in their cabs, are literally out of view for most Americans.

At a moment when President Trump has ignited a national discussion of blue collar labor and even climbed into a truck during a White House event, trucking, which was once among the best paying such jobs, has become low wage, grinding, unhealthy work.

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Turnover at large for hire fleets hauling freight by the truckload runs an astonishing 80 per cent a year. One driver, 54 years old, driving for 27 years, was interviewed by the New York Times recently about his job. This is a part of that interview.

**"We're throwaway people. Nobody cares about us. Everybody's perception of a truck driver is we clog up traffic, we get in the way, we pollute the environment. We're just like cops. Everybody needs us but nobody wants us."**

*Why do you keep driving?*

**"Because at 54 years old, nobody wants me. I can't retrain for anything else. For older people, you kind of get trapped. For every one that does well, there's 30 that it destroys."**

Now there comes along a couple of new wrinkles.

One is the fact that looming over the horizon is a future in which trucks become self-driving and threaten to eliminate many drivers' livelihoods. Another upcoming problem is companies requiring drivers to be tested for sleep apnea.

There are no federal regulations for tracking or treating sleep apnea in transportation workers. Federal officials have been working on guidelines for more than a year. All of this came from a court case where the company required a driver to get tested. When he refused and took them to court claiming they violated the American with Disabilities Act or ADA. The court ruled against him and he appealed it to the Supreme Court and their

decision not to hear the case caused the trucking companies to panic and started insisted the government set some rules or regulations to cover it. The cost of sleep studies vary over a wide range but the average is around \$1,200 although some run as high as \$9,000.

The companies want drivers that have a body mass index (BMI) greater than 35 to get tested. The BMI, overweight, lack of physical fitness, bad diet, smoking, and poor sleep patterns probably could cause a person to have sleep apnea.

A sleep study expert stated, "To choose a lifestyle to give you sleep apnea, you choose to be a trucker." Well said.

Oh yeah, the companies want the drivers to pay for the sleep study.

## RIGHT TO WORK LAWS

Under right to work laws, states have the authority to determine whether workers can be required to join a labor union to get or keep a job. Currently, 28 states and Guam have given workers a choice when it comes to union membership. Labor unions still operate in those states, but workers cannot be compelled to become members as a requirement of their job. Kentucky became the 27<sup>th</sup> right to work state when it enacted HB 1 on January 9, 2017. Missouri became the 28<sup>th</sup> by enacting SB 19 on February 2, 2017. Florida is a right to work state. The best thing about being a right to work state is that all members of Teamsters Local 79 are members because they want to be, not because they have to be!

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**Biggest myth of the day is the belief that right to work laws create jobs.**

### **WORST JOB IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**According to The Washington Post, (May 17, 2017) the worst job in the Nation's capital is working at the White House for President Donald Trump.**

**As Donald Trump has grown increasingly angry and frustrated with his White House staff, the beleaguered targets of his ire have a quietly roiling gripe of their own, their boss, the President himself.**

**In his wake remain his exhausted aides and deputies, the frequent targets of Trump's wrath as they struggle to control an uncontrollable chief executive and labor to explain away his stumbles.**

**Some White House staffers have turned to impeachment gallows humor. Other mid-level aides have started contacting consultants, shopping their resumes. And at least one senior staffer has begun privately talking to friends about what a post-White House job would look like, according to two people close to the staffer.**

### **OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS (?)**

**What happens when you take a woman that is a billionaire, made a fortune in the charter school business and make her the Secretary of Education for the United States? Surely you know the answer to that! Betsy DeVos was confirmed by the Senate despite her lack of experience and grievous incompetence. Her proposed budget for the department**

**is following through on her promise to slash and burn educational programs.**

**The Washington Post reports that documents showing preliminary budget proposals indicate that there will be a \$9.2 billion cut to the department overall, with \$500 million directed towards charter schools, 50 per cent more than current funding. There will also be \$250 million dedicated to "Education Innovation and Research Grants," which study the impact of giving students vouchers to attend private and religious schools, though some of that may be directed to the vouchers themselves.**

**The administration also wants to devote \$1 billion of Title I money to a new grant program called Furthering Options for Children to Unlock Success, but only for districts that allow kids to --you guessed it-- choose their school.**

**All in all, 22 programs will be defunded to support this budget proposal.**

**The documents obtained by The Post, dated May 23, 2017, the day the President's budget is expected to be released, outline the rest of the cuts, including a \$15 million program that provides child care for low income parents in college; a \$27 million arts education program; two programs targeting Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students, totaling \$65 million; two international education and foreign language programs, \$72 million; a \$12 million program for gifted students; and \$12 million for Special Olympics education programs.**

**Welcome to the Billionaires Club, White House and Oval Office Arena.**

**WHEN YOU'RE SEVENTY....  
WHO CARES???**

Not exactly politically correct, so  
forgive me ladies, this time.

I was standing at the bar at the VFW  
one night minding my own business  
when.....

This fat ugly chick came up behind  
me, grabbed my behind and said,  
"You're kinda cute. You gotta phone  
number?"

I said, "Yeah, you gotta pen?"

She said, "Yeah, I gotta pen."

I said, "You better get back in it  
before the farmer misses you."

Cost me 6 stiches... but,

When you're seventy....who cares?

I was talking to a young woman and  
she said, "If you lost a few pounds,  
had a shave and got your hair cut,  
you'd look all right."

I said, "If I did that, I'd be talking to  
your friends over there instead of  
you."

Cost me a fat lip, but.....

When you're seventy..... Who cares?

**NOMINATION MEETING,  
ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND  
ELECTION RULES**

This year the Bay area Retirees will  
hold an election of officers with  
nominations taken from the floor at  
the August 2, 2017 meeting. The  
meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the  
Teamsters Local 79 Union Hall, 5818  
E. MLK Blvd., Tampa, FL 33619.

The election rules are as follows:

A person making a nomination  
must be a member in good standing;

The person nominated must be  
a member in good standing;

If you are going to be  
nominated, you must be present at  
the nomination meeting to accept the  
nomination;

All nominations must have  
been seconded by a member in good  
standing;

The election will be conducted  
by secret ballot at the October 4,  
2017 meeting with the ballots  
counted at end of voting. Said  
meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the  
Teamsters Local Union 79 Union Hall,  
5818 E. MLK Blvd., Tampa, FL 33619;

The Bay area Retirees  
Executive Board shall sit as election  
committee and rule on all election  
decisions. Furthermore, the  
Executive Board, as the Election  
Committee, will make candidate  
recommendations if needed.

Be advised that all offices as listed  
below are up for election and each  
has a three year term. The names of  
the existing officers are listed with  
the respective office they now hold.

President, Bob Meeks

Vice-President, Amos Castillo

Treasurer, Steve Mosley

Recording Secretary, Joe Rumore

Trustees (3), Ray Mattson

Manuel Rodriquez

Frank LaRocca

**IF YOU HAVE PAID YOUR 2017  
DUES, THEN IGNORE THE  
NEXT PAGE. IF YOU WANT TO  
PAY YOUR DUES OR WANT TO  
JOIN, PLEASE USE THE FORM  
ON THE NEXT PAGE.**

**BAY AREA RETIREES CHAPTER  
2017 DUES STATEMENT  
AND 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 2017 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**

**BAY AREA RETIREES  
5818 E. MLK BLVD.  
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33519**



**To Serve and Improve  
Our Members Life**

# **JUNE MEETING CHANGE**

**THE JUNE MEETING WILL BE ON  
THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2017  
AT 10:00 A.M.**