Teamster Day at the ballpark a home run

The 2014 Joint Council 7 Teamster Day at the Ballpark continues to grow in success and popularity. This year’s event was attended by 2,600 Teamsters and their families. Local 70 purchased 500 tickets, and that was not enough. There was a line around the block and we sold out in 90 minutes!

A new addition to this year’s event was Back 40 BBQ. We have outgrown cooking ourselves, and had to bring in professionals. They were a great success, as the food was great, and there was no wait to be served.

We also took over the rest of the creekside parking lot. Representatives of the Oakland Athletics commented on the size and efficiency of our tailgate. We are the single biggest group they host each year.

We also had a very successful DRIVE and voter registration booth. There was plenty of food, drink, and good time to be shared. One of our members, Andrew Young from 7-up even won a television!

Next year’s event will grow again. Besides Local 70, almost every Local in the Joint Council needed more tickets than they received. Our goal is to take over the whole outfield section of the Coliseum. Next year we are going to make it happen.

The members of Teamsters Local 70 hereby resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, the Central States and other pension plans have severe financial problems,

WHEREAS, it is widely expected that the Central States and other plans will become insolvent in the near future unless there is a serious effort to address the funding problems,

WHEREAS, UPS was allowed to buy its way out of the Central States pension plan in 2008 because the Central States Pension Plan refused to provide the cost per hour to stay in the plan to match the offer of UPS. Now, Kroger is proposing to exit the plan; if they are successful, it will seriously impact this and other plans,

WHEREAS, our benefit plans are at the core of Teamster membership and are the product of the efforts of many generations of Teamsters,

WHEREAS, the NCCMP has developed a Union-Employer legislative initiative to allow distressed multi-employer pension plans to reduce benefits, providing a way to seriously prevent the failure of these plans,

WHEREAS, the IBT leadership needs to support this legislative initiative, giving us the best chance to save the Central States and other distressed plans from collapse and to avoid the consequences of this event for all other Teamster plans,

WHEREAS, the facts are clear: reduced benefits are better than no benefits. We will not wait for the collapse!

Now, THEREFORE, the members of Local 70 hereby RESOLVE as follows: Because the very survival of all Teamster benefit plans rests on finding a viable solution to the Central States and other plans’ crisis, Officers and Officials of the IBT must all support the union-led effort to allow multi-employer plans to adjust benefits of current and future retirees as required to prevent their plans from collapse.

Members urged to support resolution on Central States Pension

On June 30, Local 70 sent the following resolution, signed by all of the Local’s officers and officials, to IBT General President Hoffa. “Even though our pension plan—the Western Conference of Teamsters Plan—is in great shape, we are concerned that if the Central States and other financially-challenged plans don’t fix their problems and go broke, it will have an impact on us,” said Secretary-Treasurer Marty Frates.

If you agree with this resolution, Frates is asking that you sign below and send this page of the paper back to Local 70 (400 Roland Way, Oakland, CA 94621).

Name: _____________________________

Employer: _________________________________

# Years in the Teamsters: __________________________
Local 70 Business Agents are currently in negotiations with the following Companies:

**Aiello temporarily out:** Business Agent Bob Aiello has been off since May 1, 2014 with severe back pain and is awaiting surgery. Due to Aiello’s medical condition, Local 70’s Executive Board has appointed Trustee Mark Hawkins to replace Aiello and he will be the Business Agent assigned to the terminals that Aiello covered. Mark and I will be in negotiations with the following companies: Matheson Mail, Reliance Sheet and Strip, MV Transportation Livermore and Veritiv/xpedx.

**Paper Industry:** We’re seeing a major change, with the merger of Unisource and xpedx. Effective July 2014, these two companies have merged and are now called Veritiv. At this time, Veritiv plans to operate Unisource Pleasanton and xpedx Livermore separately. For how long the facilities operate separately is the question. How long the facilities operate separately is the question. We will keep you updated.

**Waste Management:** Business Agent Felix Martinez and Vice President Jim Fried are working hard to secure the Oakland Franchise for Waste Management Inc. (WMI). Dealing with Oakland’s city officials is a full-time job. This Waste Management co-workers attend an Oakland City Council meeting to fight to keep the franchise agreement.

**Sugar Tax:** Business Agent Lou Marchetti and Recording Secretary Ruben Bustillos are working hard to address the 1 to 2 cents per ounce sugar tax initiatives on soda and numerous other beverages that San Francisco and Berkeley will have on their November ballots. Lou is concerned that this tax will affect the sale of Coke, Pepsi and Seven-up to the point of job losses for our members. Lou and Ruben will be reaching out to the membership for support in defeating this tax.

**Upcoming Steward Trainings:** Vice President Jim Fried has scheduled Steward’s education and training seminars at 9:00 am prior to Local 70’s Saturday Membership meetings. All interested members are welcome to attend. Your stewards are sent notice of the seminar topics; please check with them. Jim has scheduled topics such as Grievance processing, Workers Comp, FMLA, DOT and more.

**Labor Day Picnic:** For our members and their families who enjoyed the A’s/Yankees baseball event, our next event is the Labor Day Picnic on September 1 at Alameda Point. This event is FREE and will include food, beverages, face painting, kids jumpers and music. Detailed information will be posted at your terminal.

**Reminder:** The next membership meeting is Saturday, September 20, 2014, at 10:00 am.

**Local to fight the sugar tax on the Berkeley & SF ballots**

By Ruben Bustillos, Local 70 Recording Secretary

On November 4, our brothers and sisters who reside in Berkeley and San Francisco will be faced with a ballot initiative in their respective cities on the sugar-sweetened beverage tax. This tax is not just centered around soda; it also covers chocolate milk (Nesokia), Tampico, Minute Maid juices, sports drinks (Gatorade), and Odel-la, along with Coke, Pepsi and 7-UP.

San Francisco’s tax would be 2 cents per ounce and Berkeley’s would be 1 cent per ounce. The tax will be on the finished, bottled drinks per ounce, not on the total grams of sugar in the drink. Residents of the Bay Area already have one of the highest costs of living in the country. We do not need any more regressive taxes—nutrition education for children, playgrounds for kids, and after school programs for youth. What we are against is the regressive nature of the tax.

In San Francisco, the tax money is earmarked for some of the programs mentioned above, but, in Berkeley the tax money will go to the general fund with NO accountability and only political promises.

Be a good citizen and make sure you are registered to vote. Be a good Teamster and sign up for DRIVE—our political action fund. Also, if you have friends or family in these cities, encourage them to vote NO on these initiatives.

Please help your 700 plus brothers and sisters in the beverage industry and vote NO on the sugar tax!

For more information on San Francisco sugar tax you can go to www.AffordableSF.com. If you might be interested in attending City Council meetings, leafletting, or precinct walking on these issues, don’t hesitate to contact me at 510-755-4813. My email is ratisbons@telmatologi-cal.org.

**Prepping to fight the Sugar Tax**

Rank and file workers in the beverage industry stand before SF City Hall prior to testifying against the proposed Sugar Tax. (From left: Oscar Hernandez, Kevin Gleason, Recording Secretary Ruben Bustillos, Nick Radke, and Bobby Redman)
Congrats on retirement from Youngs Market

The members at Young’s Market in Union City join Business Agent on a Saturday morning to educate and inform the Stewards Meeting. The Local would like to thank her for making time on proper grievance handling and changes in labor law.

On July 16, the Business Agents and Shop Stewards who work in the soda industry from Locals 70, 853, 856, and 896 met to develop a strategy to defeat the sugar tax initiatives in San Francisco and Berkeley.

Secretory-Treasurer’s Report

Marty Frates

Oakland’s solid waste franchise agreement

The Mayor and City Council should finalize the Solid Waste/Residential Recycling Franchise Agreement sometime in August. Two companies are bidding: Waste Management and Cal Waste Solutions. Local 70 has a contract with both companies and would normally stay neutral because our members have the right to follow their work. However, upon review of the initial proposals by each company, we have no choice but to support Waste Management for the following reasons:

1. Infrastructure: Waste Management has about 98 acres on 98th Ave. in Oakland. Room to park its trucks, have a maintenance facility, offices, customer service, and more. Its transfer station at Davis St. has a state-of-the-art recycling facility, alternate dump site, a place to dump garbage and get the rewards of measure D. All of this in Oakland and Alameda County.

Cal Waste Solutions is currently located in a residential area of West Oakland with no place to park trucks, although they seem to have an agreement with Bill Abuudi to park garbage trucks at the Port. This is the same land that was supposed to be used to park containers and trucks. Abuudi is the same individual who defaulted on monies owed to the city and is guilty of larceny charges for about $1 million dollars for not paying wages, etc. Clearly, he’s an outstanding member of the community. The bottom line is Cal Waste Solutions has no infrastructure and only empty promises. How can you bid when you are not prepared to do the job?

2. Equipment: Waste Management currently has the equipment to do the job and is in a position to update it. This includes garbage trucks, transfer trucks, and all containers required to do the job both residential and commercial. They also have all the fuel and fueling systems in place and qualified employees to do the job.

Cal Waste Solutions does not have the equipment for residential and commercial customers. Promises do not work in the real business world.

3. Investment: Waste Management has the 98th Ave facility in Oakland, and the transfer station and state-of-the-art recycling facility at Davis St. The Altamont dump site and all of these facilities are in place and operating.

Cal Waste Solutions – Only promises!

4. Protection of Jobs: Waste Management’s proposal keeps all jobs in Oakland and Alameda County and provides for growth.

Cal Waste Solutions will take jobs and work out of Oakland, which would include about 30% of the recycling at Davis St.

Based on the facts, the only reasonable decision is to award the franchise agreement to Waste Management, which is best for all the employees and best for the residents of Oakland.

Political involvement

The never-ending political battle continues. Local 70 will be kicking off its voter registration drive and encourage members to join DRIVE, the Teamsters political arm.

As you know, we do not use dues money for political donations. We get this money from officers, officials and the members on a voluntary sign-up for a weekly deduction. We encourage all members to register to vote and join DRIVE. We know we have to participate in the political process or will get legislated out of business.

Temp business agent

The Local 70 Executive Board has appointed Mark Hawkins as a business agent on a temporary basis. He is replacing Bob Aiello, who has been off on workers compensation since May 1, 2014. Bob is waiting for approval from our workers compensation carrier for his doctor’s recommended back surgery. Hopefully, this will take place in the near future and we wish Bob a speedy recovery.

Bob has indicated it is possible he may not return to work, depending on how the surgery goes. In the event Bob returns to work, Mark will return to work at Horizon Lines where he is taking a leave of absence. Since the business agent appointment is temporary, Mark will do double duty and continue to do his Trustees job. If Bob does not return to work, then Mark’s appointment will become permanent and the Executive Board will go through the process of selecting a replacement for Trustee.

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Labor Day Picnic

The Labor Day Picnic is Monday, September 1, at Alameda Point from 11:30 am to 4:30 pm. Please plan to attend. Admission for this great event is free, and it includes food for our members and your families. Please look for the notice on your Union Bulletin Board and plan to attend.
No down-time for Local 70 Trustees

As this article goes to press most of us are enjoying summer vacations and family time. Rest assured your three Local 70 Trustees are not slacking.

Rich Fierro has been heavily involved in the political arena, sitting in on the interview process as those with political aspirations seek out Teamster endorsements. When the Teamster recommendations for candidates are issued, you can be sure plenty of thought went into creating the list.

Mark Hawkins has yet to come down from the high of the baseball game. Not sure we realized how much work it would actually take to arrange a 2,600 person tailgate! Fortunately we didn’t let the excitement get the best of us, the game. Not sure we realized how much down from the high of the baseball game.

Kelsey Frazier has been busy with Port of Oakland actions, continuously trying to gain traction with the ever changing cast of characters in the world of Oakland port drivers. Kelsey has also been planning the Labor Day Bike Run which we hope will double the number of bikes this year.

Labor Day is our next big venture. Stay tuned!

TAP golf tournament named for former Local 70 President Joe Silva

Former Local 70 President Joseph L. Silva, Jr. was the Chairman of the Teamsters Assistance Program (TAP) Board of Directors for 28 years. During that time, Joe used his legal knowledge, experience and dedication to help TAP become one of the most respected labor-management employee assistance programs in the country. In 2006, TAP received the Ross Van Weigand award for excellence as a labor-management EAP from the Employee Assistance Professional Association.

When Joe first became Board Chairman, the program was called the Teamsters Alcohol Recovery Program and was staffed by Teamsters who had overcome their own substance abuse problems. Soon an aftercare program was created to help members and family members remain sober after they completed treatment. During his tenure as Board Chair, as peer counselors retired, TARP became TAP and hired professional counselors. Joe and the Board led TAP into the 21st century, enabling it to serve Teamsters and their families while meeting new federal mandates.

“The TAP program would not be what it is today without the leadership of Joseph L. Silva, Jr.,” says TAP Executive Director Bill Gaito. After his retirement from the Board this year TAP recognized Joe’s contributions by naming the program’s annual golf tournament fundraiser in honor of Joseph L. Silva, Jr.

“Naming this event after Joe is a fitting tribute to a man whose actions helped thousands of families over the years, while taking no credit for himself,” added Secretary-Treasurer Marty Frates. “Thank you, Joe!”

Trustees Update
by Kelsey Frazier, Mark Hawkins, Rich Fierro

Local Union 70
City of Oakland, CA
International Brotherhood of Teamsters

TRUSTEES REPORT

June 2014

INCOME
Membership Dues $216,898.29
Initiation and Re-initiation Fees 8,578.43
Assessments & Fines 432.00
Non-member Fees 968.91
Funds for Transmittal 258.50
Receipts from Affiliates 11,045.74
Other Income (Schedule A) 1,289.08
Total Cash Received $239,470.95

EXPENSES
Salaries 50,640.25
Expense allowances 6,250.00
Per capita tax 57,695.64
Total Expenses $9,252.00

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES
As of June 30, 2014

Assets
United Labor - General Fund 940,710.82
Cash in Special Funds 34,740.63
Land 823,521.00
Buildings 2,891,642.00
Office Furniture/Equipment 29,804.16
Total Assets $4,721,268.83

Liabilities and Equity
Payroll Liability 9,548.97
Total Current Liabilities $9,548.97
Total Liabilities & Obligations 180,683.76

Obligations
Beginning Equity (Fund Balance) 4,530,419.28
Total Equity $4,721,268.83

SCHEDULES
Schedule A—Other Receipts
Sale of Supplies 574.00
Interest: Other 22.31
Reimbursements 1,252.25
Insurance (Benefeint) 120.00
Labor Day 1,500.00
Local 2010 lease 4,118.00
Total Income $1,311.39

Schedule B—Other Expenses
Taxes 4,361.18
Meeting and committee expenses 0.00
Out-of-town travel 32.35
Other expenses (Schedule B) 1,924.50
Total Paid Out $519,033.23

Total Income $239,470.95

Note: Increase (or Decrease) in Cash $48,437.22

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

Teamsters Local 70
2014 MEETING SCHEDULE

General Membership & Steward Council Meetings
July – August 2014 .................... MEETINGS SUSPENDED FOR SUMMER
September 20, 2014 .................... Saturday 10:00 a.m.
October 23, 2014 .................... Thursday 7:00 p.m.
November 15, 2014 .................... Saturday 10:00 a.m.
December 9, 2014 .................... Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

Sick Benefit Meetings
2nd Tuesday of the Month
Call Tony Lara, Sick Committee Chairman for more information:
800-243-1350 or 510-569-9317

All meetings are held at Teamsters Local 70:
400 Roland Way, Oakland, CA 94621, unless otherwise notified.

Stay on the list! When you move, tell us your new address!
▲ By the web: www.teamsterslocal70.org
▲ By E-mail: ibt70@teamsterslocal70.org
▲ In person or U.S. Mail: 400 Roland Way, Oakland, CA 94621