

## **United Transportation Union Local 161 Newsletter – April 25, 2007**

NEXT UNION MEETING – MAY 8, 2007

6:00 p.m.

Boeing Machinists' Union Hall

9125 15<sup>th</sup> Pl. S.

Seattle, WA 98108

South Building

### NEW BULLETIN BOARD

We have moved the Bentley Board just to the left of the Safety Dept. door.

Check it frequently for any updates.

Also, check our website for the latest information: [www.utulocal161.org](http://www.utulocal161.org).

### BIDS FOR MAY 1 – JUNE 7, 2007

For the first time ever, the company allowed the union to conduct the bidding process.

Management set up the bid grid and Union Officers went through the roster filling it in by seniority order.

Rodney and Larry were of great assistance in contacting many of the drivers. At the end of each bid day, Brian posted the results on the website. Copies were also posted on the Bentley Board and the dispatch office window.

I must admit that this process was a full-time job. At times, it was quite busy and hectic. I cannot imagine how the dispatchers did this with the added stress of running operations at the same time. I now understand why they were not able to spend a lot of time discussing options for bids in the past.

We would be interested in any feedback that you may have so we can continually improve our operations in the future. We appreciate the company allowing us to help out in this process.

### DRIVERS ON LEAVE

Several of our fellow drivers are unable to be here for various reasons. Please keep them in your thoughts as they deal with medical issues. Ford Hyatt, Randy Swanson, Kiki Garrison, and Jim Willhight. Also, include Don Ballard who is on military leave. Thank you.

### CURRENT ISSUES AT LOCAL 161

Entrance/Exit to W. Marginal Way -

We are examining the company policy of vehicles yielding to outgoing traffic.

State laws stipulate the opposite. Vehicles on private drives must yield to traffic entering from the street. We'll keep you posted of any changes.

Concerns re: vehicles 705 & 706 on Mt.

Rainier tour – luggage placement, comfort of passengers, lack of a restroom, rough ride in back, etc.

### EXTRA HEALTH/VISION COVERAGE

Some of our drivers have been in contact with Aflac Insurance for supplemental coverage for health and vision. We will arrange to have Paul Smilosky here on one of the busy days in May to answer any of your questions. It is completely optional for any who are interested in signing up for it.

### SAFETY- MANUAL, GUIDES, INFO

The new manager of GLS Safety, Jay Rogers, has decided to make available many manuals, guides and information in the classroom located in the training area. These materials used to be locked in an office. He would like to invite any interested drivers to take a look at the various items that are available. Feel free to stop by. Since I became Chairman, I have been pushing for management to focus more on educating drivers instead of merely disciplining us if we made mistakes. He shares this same philosophy. Check it out if you have some free time in the near future.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Age is an issue of mind over matter.

If you don't mind, it doesn't matter!

Mark Twain