

Next Union Meeting

July 8, 2008 - 6:00 pm
Boeing Machinists Hall
9125 15th Place South
Seattle, WA 98108
South Building

The Newsletter is Back!

At our last union meeting, it was suggested that we improve communication to the membership by bringing back the monthly newsletter. This will be posted on the UTU Bulletin Board in the driver's room and on our website: utulocal161.org It will outline important issues that all should be aware of. Of course, it would be best to attend the meetings to get the full details. We hope you can make the July 8th meeting. See you there!

From Chairman Duggan:

Michael Carter has begun a new career in the Dispatch Office. We would like to wish him well in his new position and hope that everybody will welcome him to the Operations Department.

Also, all drivers and shop personnel should be reminded of the medical leave language in our contract. Article 14 gives specific information regarding the benefits that are offered to us. If you have been employed for 2 years or longer, paid medical leave is available to you for serious health conditions as defined in the Family Medical Leave Act. If you are off work due to an accident or medical reasons for more than 5 working days, this will pertain to you. A doctor's letter stating that you are able to return to normal duties is required upon your return.

Mystery Damage

There have been several incidents of mystery damage on our coaches. Apparently, some drivers are not reporting when they get into minor accidents. Any type of contact between the bus and another object needs to be reported on an accident form. Otherwise, another driver may be assessed points for that damage. It is important for all of us to inspect coaches carefully during the pre-trip for any fresh damage. If you find some, let the Safety Dept. know. If they are not around, get someone from the shop or another driver to witness the damage before you leave the yard.

Gate Transmitters

Many coaches have been outfitted with a round disk that looks like a hockey puck. This device will open the security gate at GLS when you return to the yard late at night. Security has been a big concern for those who either return late or report very early in the morning. Hopefully, this will help.

Video Cameras

If you drive a coach where the video cameras do not work properly or are missing, please note this on the VIR. These cameras have already been used to clear some of our drivers' records from false accusations made by other people on the road. Be sure they are in working order.

Thought for the Day

You become what you think about...
Stay positive!