



united transportation union

MEMO TO ALL NEW DRIVERS

June 26, 2004

Many new drivers have expressed shock and confusion at not having been told by Gray Line management during training that the UTU Local 161 initiation fee would be waived if Local 161 membership applications were received within 30 days after the start of revenue driving. UTU Local 161 has advised management of these details, both in writing and verbally, and asked that the information be relayed to driver-trainees during training. The information has not been relayed. To overcome this lack of advice and information, the union has endeavored to get the news out to new drivers by word of mouth, but we are not told by management who the new drivers are and not everyone has heard the important details of union membership.

To help avoid such confusion in the first place, UTU Local 161 had a requirement added to the current collective bargaining agreement. The requirement was that within 14 days of the start of revenue driving, Gray Line management would advise the union of the names and home addresses of new drivers. The union, which is banned from making a direct presentation to driver trainees during training, would then be able to mail important membership information directly to new drivers.

Gray Line management has not provided the union with any information on names and addresses of any of the dozens of new drivers who began revenue service since the agreement went into effect. UTU Local 161 is therefore unable to provide specific important membership information to new drivers unless it is by coincidence, word of mouth, or by actual request from the new drivers themselves.

It is unfortunate that the disregard shown by Gray Line of Seattle management toward UTU Local 161 also causes an unnecessary and easily avoidable financial hardship on brand new drivers. For additional important details on union membership please contact the undersigned as soon as possible.


Wayne Ingersoll
Secretary/Treasurer
UTU Local 161