



295 News

Teamsters Local Union 295
Air Freight Chauffeurs, Handlers,
Warehousemen & Allied Workers, International
Brotherhood of Teamsters



Summer 2006

Moving Forward Together *Unity and Power on Display at Teamster Convention*



The International Brotherhood of Teamsters held its 27th International Convention in June. “We are moving forward together,” said Jim Hoffa, Teamsters General President. “We have accomplished so much because we are united like never before and we are stronger than ever

before. But there’s more to do. We are changing to grow and we will not rest until we have won our fight.”

More than 7,000 Teamster delegates, retirees and guests gathered in Las Vegas under the banner of “Moving Forward Together” to tackle a range of constitutional and policy issues that set the future course of the Teamsters Union.

At the Convention, Local 295 President Lou Calemine had the honor of addressing the delegates about the union’s efforts at DHL as well as bringing the Convention resolution on DHL organizing to the floor (see page 3).

During the Convention, there was a major announcement that a card-check agreement was reached with UPS Freight. The agreement will provide a massive boost to the Teamsters’ organizing efforts at the former Overnight Transportation.

“The Teamsters Union is stronger and more united than ever,” said Calemine. “With the pledge to organize DHL and its independent cartage companies and the

Left: Members of the Local 295 delegation at the Convention. Right: Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa points the union in the right direction.

agreement at Overnite, Local 295 figures to be right at the heart of some pretty big Teamster campaigns.”

At the Convention, delegates ratified a number of other resolutions to set priorities for the union, including:

- Building an army of Teamster organizers for campaigns including port drivers, Quebecor World workers, Cintas Corp. workers and school bus workers;
- Continuing the fight to keep the border closed to unsafe Mexican trucks;
- Fighting to protect retirement security; and
- Fighting for strong contracts that set industry standards.

Among the distinguished guests who addressed the Convention were former U.S. Senator John Edwards (D-NC); U.S. Senator Joe Biden (D-DE); U.S. Representative Pete Hoekstra (R-MI); as well as labor leaders, union members and some celebrities.

Labor Day Parade 2006

This year’s annual New York City Labor Day Parade will take place on Saturday, September 9. The parade will begin around noon and run up Fifth Avenue from 44th Street to 72nd Street. Local 295 members will line up on West 46th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues along with other Teamsters Joint Council 16 affiliates. All members and their families are encouraged to attend what is always a great day for union members. T-shirts, food and beverages will be provided.



Unity, Power & Pride!

You should have seen the Teamster power and pride at the Convention. I've never seen such a big group so united and strong. It was truly inspiring.

In this case, what happened in Vegas is definitely not staying in Vegas! We're going to take the ideas and energy from the Convention and bring them home. It's our turn to take the resolutions that were passed at the Convention and turn them into action.

For members of Local 295, our primary focus is going to be on organizing DHL and its network of sister companies and subcontractors – wherever they are, anywhere in the country.

It was really incredible being at the Convention. On top of the unity and pride of the delegates, we heard some great speeches by our leaders, fellow Teamsters, brothers and sisters from the labor movement, politicians and celebrities.

For me, though, the most incredible thing was that our union, Local 295, was held up as a shining example for other Teamsters to follow. It wasn't that long ago that our union was being ripped apart by in-fighting and that our members were being neglected by an unresponsive leadership. Now, because of the way our members came together and took

back their union, we are helping to lead the Teamsters.

Members of Local 295 and Local 851 were featured in the Convention's discussions and videos about organizing DHL. It was truly an honor for all of us. Every single one of you should be proud of what we've accomplished in a short period of time.

Likewise, the Teamsters Union has made some big changes in recent years as well. We are more united than ever. Our finances are back in the black. The Teamsters Union once again has a strong strike fund. We have the resources to run large scale organizing campaigns against global employers.

We are leading the labor movement forward again because of this and our decision to leave the AFL-CIO and start a new labor federation, Change to Win. We continue to have the best wages, health care, pensions and contracts in the land. And we are the most democratic union anywhere. That explains why our union is growing while others are barely holding steady at best.

But we've still got a lot of work to do and we need to keep growing. The labor movement is at an all-time low, and the Teamsters want to grow to two million, three million or even four million members to achieve more for working families.

“Members of Local 295 and Local 851 were featured in the Convention's discussions and videos about organizing DHL. It was truly an honor for all of us.”

It's not going to be easy, but I am very confident that if anyone can do it, it's the Teamsters. We've all accomplished a lot together. Our unity and pride will give us the Teamster power to keep moving forward together.

Moving?

If you change your address, it is very important to let the union and funds' offices know. Please call the office as soon as possible to make sure we have the correct contact information for you, so benefit and other important information can reach you.

Teamsters Local Union 295

Air Freight Chauffeurs, Handlers,
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International Brotherhood of Teamsters

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295 Members Take on DHL in Ohio

Fresh off the successful organizing and contract campaigns at Building 263, members of Local 295 are helping organize another DHL facility -- its main hub in Ohio.

Locals 295 and 851 have sent members and officers to Ohio to assist the 6,000 ABX Air mechanics and sorters in Wilmington, Ohio, who are fighting to be Teamsters.

"These men and women have only been Teamsters for about a year, but they're already out on the front lines helping other workers join our Teamsters Union," said



Delegates Pledge to Build Teamster Power at DHL



Local 295 President Lou Calemine (left) and Local 851 President Thom Conelias addressed Convention delegates.

Delegates at the Teamsters Convention overwhelmingly passed a resolution pledging to continue to build Teamster strength throughout the DHL delivery system. The resolution was brought to the floor by Local 295 President Lou Calemine.

"This confirms our commitment to expanding Teamster power in the global supply chain. By organizing more workers that deliver DHL packages, we protect our existing members in the DHL system and our other members in the industry," said Jim Hoffa, Teamsters General President.

Local 295 President Lou Calemine. "They're proud Teamsters now, and they're out organizing their fellow workers at DHL."

In May, Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa led a rally for the workers with 295 President Lou Calemine, 851 President Thom Conelias and 851 Vice President Ken Roper.

At the Teamsters Convention, Scott Williams, an ABX Air mechanic, spoke about his hope that the organizing drive would be a success very soon and he thanked Locals 295 and 851 for their help throughout the campaign.

Top: Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa leads a rally in support of ABX workers in Ohio.

Bottom: Local 295 President Lou Calemine, Local 851 President Thom Conelias and Local 851 Vice President Ken Roper show their support for ABX workers.

The successful efforts of Local 295 and Local 851 at Building 263 were used as an example for other locals to follow. The locals' presidents, Lou Calemine and Thom Conelias, were both asked to address the Convention to talk about the victories of their unions.

Since late 2004, after DHL purchased Airborne Express, Teamster locals have organized nearly 700 DHL employees at three gateways and more than 2,000 workers at the independent contractors DHL uses. The Teamsters already represent nearly 10,000 DHL employees, 700 DHL Danzas workers, 700 pilots at ABX Air and 500 workers at DHL Loomis.



“All that serves labor serves the nation. All that harms is treason. If a man tells you he loves America, yet hates labor, he is a liar. If a man tells you he trusts America, yet fears labor, he is a fool. There is no America without labor, and to fleece one is to rob the other.” — Abraham Lincoln

Get A Withdrawal Card When You Leave Your Job

Be sure to request a withdrawal card within 90 days from when you are laid off, called to active duty, terminated, retire, go on disability or leave the craft. The charge for the withdrawal card is \$0.50. All initiation fees and back dues must be up to date before the withdrawal card is issued. Mail or bring in the form below to the Local 295 office along with your check or money order for \$0.50. It is your responsibility to obtain a withdrawal card. Failure to obtain a withdrawal card might obligate you to pay extra dues and re-initiation fees.

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Withdrawal Card Request Form

Name _____

Social Security No. _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Last Day of Work _____

Name of Employer _____

Reason for Leaving (Quit, Laid Off, Terminated, etc.) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Upcoming Meetings

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

take place on the last Tuesday of the month at the Local 295 Union Hall at 6:00 PM.

- September 26
- October 31
- November 28

REGIONAL MEETINGS

take place on Sundays from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

- **September 17** at the Hilton Hotel (2117 Route 4 East, Fort Lee, NJ 07024; For directions call 201-461-9000)
- **October 1** at The Inn at Ethan Allen (21 Lake Ave., Danbury, CT 06810; For directions call 800-742-1176)
- **October 8** at the American Legion Hall (51 Roosevelt Ave., Valley Stream, NY 11580; For directions call 516-791-9719)

Reporting Allegations of Corruption

Donald F. Schwally, Corruption Officer

The job of the Corruption Officer is to continue the efforts to keep organized crime and corruption out of Local 295. If you have any information concerning allegations of wrongdoing or corruption, contact the officer at: 1-800-613-4295 or by mail at P.O. Box 512, Valley Stream, NY 11582. All correspondence will be kept strictly confidential.