



295 News

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



Spring 2006

In the rapidly changing workplace, multinational corporations have consistently gained the upper hand against workers and unions. They have achieved success in limiting the rights of workers by having laws passed at the federal, state and local levels.

That's why Local Union 295 is working with the Teamsters International to run a DRIVE (Democrat, Republican, Independent Voter Education) campaign.

Local 295 President Lou Calemine urges all members to join the fight for working families by signing up for DRIVE.

"The New York, New Jersey and Connecticut Teamsters have a proud tradition of political activism," Calemine

said. "One or two dollars a week is a very small price to pay for the opportunity to be a part of the Teamsters' fight for economic justice."

The attacks on workers' rights, benefits and work rules have eroded

DRIVE to Success!

the wages and power of working families across the United States. For example, our elected officials are currently considering legislation that would tax workers on health and pension benefits as earned



International DRIVE Representative Joseph Saroli

income, resulting in less take-home pay for

working families. In recent years, we have seen more corporate scandals and companies walking away from their obligations to employee benefit and pension funds than ever before.

"We have to make the political arena the battleground for fighting these attacks," Calemine said.

"The Teamsters need to lead the way in changing laws to make it easier for workers to organize and get contracts for non-union workers," said Teamsters General President James P. Hoffa. "We can do this by fighting for workers' rights at all levels of government, from Capitol Hill to City Hall. We can turn back the corporate assault on working Americans."

Big business outspends working families by 15 to one on politics. By signing up for DRIVE, the Teamsters Political Action Committee fund, you will join the fight to advance our cause as working people and help level the playing field. Join the thousands of Teamster brothers and sisters who have already decided to do so and are already standing together in the fight for America's working families.

When the Teamsters International DRIVE Representative comes to your workplace, join up with DRIVE!



Shop Steward Conference

In December, Locals 295 and 851 held their first-ever joint shop steward training seminar. Over 200 members attended this historic conference. "Shop stewards are a union's first line of defense, protecting members in the shops," said Local 295 President Lou Calemine. "We put this seminar together to provide them with the tools and information they need to be the best stewards possible. I want to thank everyone who attended as well as the Local 851 leadership for making the event such a success." During the seminar, the unions honored Teamsters Local 111 President Dan Kane, Sr., for his leadership and vision for area Teamsters. The seminar was held at Roma View in Queens.



Diversity Makes Us Strong!

We are all very fortunate to be members of Teamsters Local 295. We live and work in and around the greatest city on earth. The deliveries and freight that we handle for DHL and other companies help provide the lifeblood of the economy. Without our services, businesses would not be able to function. We are at work 24 hours a day, seven days a week, helping connect people and businesses in the tri-state area to others around the globe.

Our members, the communities where we live, the companies we work for and the clients our companies serve are incredibly diverse.

Some of our members live in cities in the area. Others live in the suburbs. And others live further away in truly rural areas.

Our members are men and women. We represent many different races and nationalities.

Our union is truly a melting pot. And, just as the melting pot made America strong, it does so for Teamsters Local 295.

We have different points of view, different skills, different concerns and different backgrounds. But our membership in this Teamster Local is able to bridge all of these differences.

And that's where our union's strength comes from.

While we are diverse, we do have one thing in common. We are all Teamsters! We all come together because we want to make the world a better place for ourselves and our families. We fight to make our jobs better, to be able to provide security for our families and to make our communities better.

This combination of diversity and unity results in great collective strength and made it possible to achieve the best DHL contract in the U.S. and the best wages and benefits in the industry for our members.

In this issue, we celebrate the diversity of our union with pictures of our members, our companies and the areas where we live and work.

On behalf of the Executive Board, I want to say what an honor it is to serve the members of this union. It is humbling to serve such a great group of men and women. When we looked over the pictures for this issue, it was really inspiring. I want to thank the members for your support in re-electing the Executive Board to serve you for another term and to represent you at the Teamsters Convention in June. It is our honor and privilege to serve the membership of this union.

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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.

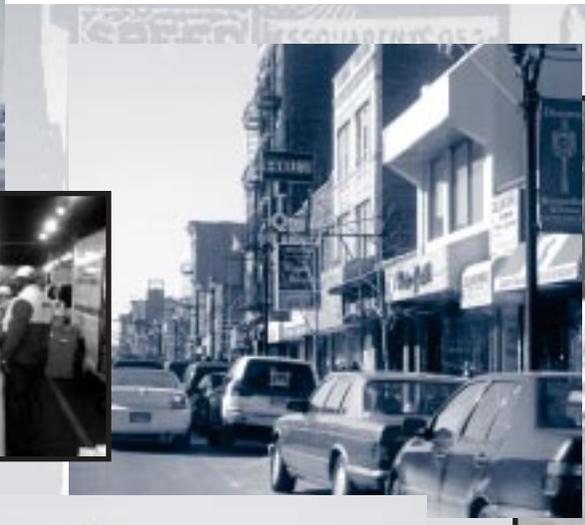
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Executive Board
Lou Calemine *President*
Charlie Russo *Sec.-Treasurer*
Patrick Scheer *Vice President*
Vinny Bruno *Recording Secretary*
Bill Robertson *Trustee*
Eddie McCormick *Trustee*
Ignacio Garcia *Trustee*

LOCAL 295



IN ACTION!



Building Bridges

Local 295 President Lou Calemine and Local 851 President Tom Conelias recently traveled across the Atlantic Ocean to meet with union leaders who represent DHL workers in England. Calemine and Conelias discussed organizing challenges on both sides of the Atlantic and compared notes on issues that members at DHL face.

“This meeting helped build international unity and strength between the different unions. We are all brothers and sisters fighting for the same things against the same employer,” said Calemine. “Our members are getting international recognition because of our organizing and negotiating wins at DHL.”

First Contract at First Vehicle

Congratulations to our new members who work for First Vehicle. The 39 mechanics at First Vehicle ratified their first contract in February. The agreement highlights include a 10% wage increase over three years, 100% paid medical coverage, seniority rights, job protections and grievance and arbitration procedures.

The mechanics had a tough fight to get this contract, starting with the organizing drive itself. From the start to the ratification, it took 18 months, but the members stayed united and won.

First Vehicle is a British-based company hired by DHL to maintain and service DHL's truck fleet.

“This is an important agreement. First of all, it upgrades the pay and benefits for these mechanics. Secondly, it is the next step in our efforts to organize all of DHL's subcontractors,” said President Lou Calemine. “Vinny Bruno and Bill Robertson put in a lot of hard work and did a great job helping these new members join our union and win this important contract.”

Another Victory at DHL

295 Wins Grievance, All Members Under One Contract Now

Local 295 recently settled a grievance with DHL that will bring all 295 members who work for DHL under one contract. DHL was keeping our members at Building 263 at JFK Airport as a separate bargaining unit. The company was also moving work from one unit to another. Now, there's one contract for everyone.

“DHL was not used to dealing with a union,” said Lou Calemine, Local 295 President. “But we're showing them that Teamsters stand up for what's right and that we can make DHL a better company. We have now brought our members at Building 263 into one bargaining unit with the rest of 295's members at DHL. Our union is stronger because of this victory.”

700 DHL Workers Join H&W Fund

As a result of the contract we won at DHL in 2004 and the victory at Building 263, over 700 full-time DHL employees, including those at Building 263, are now participants in the 295/851 Health and Welfare Fund. The agreement eliminates the three-year waiting period. As of March 1, all full-time DHL members are now covered.

295 Wins CDL Agreement

With workers facing stiffer penalties under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Act, Local 295 won an important agreement with DHL to protect union drivers. Under this agreement, if a driver has his or her Commercial Driver's License suspended due to a violation of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act (MCSIA) regulations, the driver will maintain his or her seniority on the list for up to two years. This important agreement protects drivers from being punished twice under the new rules.



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Victory Through Unity!

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.



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 _____

“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”

Upcoming Meetings

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

take place on the last Tuesday of every month at the Local 295 Union Hall at 6:00 PM. Upcoming meetings will be held on:

- April 25
- May 30

REGIONAL MEETINGS The next regional meeting will be held on:

- **Sunday, April 2:** From 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, at the American Legion Hall (51 Roosevelt Avenue, Valley Stream, NY. Call (516) 791-9719 for directions.)

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.