

# Alaska TEAMSTERS



Local 959 Newsletter

December 2022

## A Message from Gary Dixon, Secretary-Treasurer

Dedication, Commitment, & Longevity: three words that aren't used in the same sentence often to describe an individual. Cal Stroble is a person that exemplifies all three of these traits.

Cal began his Teamster career in July of 1965 working for Smyth Van Lines and eventually worked for other moving companies. In September of 1973 Cal came to work for the Local in Anchorage as the Dispatcher. The Dispatch Hall is where jobs from contractors come into the Local and then members can bid on the work that is provided through our collective bargaining agreements. The dispatcher is usually one of the most popular and well-known employees of the Local, having a lot of interaction with the members. In the 1970s, 80s, and 90s, everyone knew Cal. His approach to members was always respectful and helpful, trying to get them to work and keep them working, and in return, they respected him as well. He helped a lot of people over the years. Many members reading this article, I am sure, have at least one if not more stories of how Cal impacted their careers while they were members.

Far too often we forget the people that have come before us and paved the way, not understanding the fights and hard work it took to get us what we have and where we are today. With that being said, I am proud to announce that I have named the Anchorage Dispatch Hall the "Cal Stroble Dispatch Hall" in his honor.



Over the years, not much of Cal's union devotion has changed, attending membership meetings and events as often as possible with his wife and retired member, Connie. His hairstyle hasn't changed much either, if you see a picture of him from 30 years ago, he still looks the same today. He is our version of Dick Clark in that sense 😊

It takes strength to choose to be dedicated and committed to a cause for as long as Cal has been, and that is admirable, to say the least. Thank you, Cal, for all your years of service to our membership!

~ Gary Dixon



### In This Edition

- ♦ Important Info
- ♦ Teamster Awards
- ♦ Save the Dates
- ♦ Member Highlights
- ♦ New Employees
- ♦ Milestones
- ♦ Retirements
- ♦ Trust Updates
- ♦ Local Events
- ♦ Longevity
- ♦ And More...



### ~ Upcoming Events ~

- 📅 June 2023—Anchorage Picnic: Time, Place, & Exact Date TBD (announcement coming soon)
- 📅 July 14, 2023—39th Annual Jesse L. Carr Charity Golf Tournament, Anchorage Golf Course

## TEAMSTER AWARDS

# 2022 Alaska Trucking Association Truck Driving Championship

The National Truck Driving Championships (NTDC), a competition for professional truck drivers, are held annually by the American Trucking Association. Due to COVID-19 concerns, this event had been postponed in 2020 and 2021. The Alaskan event for this year took place on Saturday, June 4, 2022, in Span Alaska's parking lot.

Through a series of exams, each participating driver got the opportunity to showcase his or her driving and inspection abilities, expertise, and professionalism. Three tests were administered to the drivers: a written exam, a pre-trip inspection test, and lastly, a skills test, which is the most noticeable.

Professional truck drivers have a lot to gain from the Championships because they are required to have been accident-free for at least a year prior to the tournament.

Drivers with United Freight & Transport, Inc. (UFT) and Lynden Transport, Inc. (LTI) showed up for the competition, and they did not disappoint!

*Congratulations to the following Teamster Freight Drivers:*

### **Lynden Transport, Inc.:**

Tevita Toetu ~ First Place, Flatbed (3 Axle Tractor & 2 Axle Flatbed Semitrailer), 5-Year Teamster, started with LTI in March 2017.

Robert Wood ~ Second Place, Twin Trailer (2 Axle Tractor & Set of 28' Semitrailer), 3-Year Teamster, started with LTI in July 2019.

Billy Mast ~ Third Place (3 Axle Tractor Semitrailer, 2 Axle Tractor, & 1 Axle 28' Semitrailer), 7-Year Teamster, started with LTI in September 2015.

### **United Freight & Transport, Inc.:**

Steven Sommerdorf ~ Third Place, 5 Axle Tractor-Semitrailer (3 Axle Tractor & 2 Axle 40' Semitrailer), 2-Year Teamster, started with UFT in July 2022.

Waska Awalin ~ Third Place Flatbed (3 Axle Tractor & 2 Axle Flatbed Semitrailer), 1-Year Teamster, started with UFT in April 2021.

*We have our  
Winners!!!*



# TRUCK RODEO





# TEAMSTER ACHIEVEMENTS

## ~Patrick FitzGerald, Political Coordinator~

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, Alaskan Teamsters had the opportunity to vote for a variety of candidates in *almost* every possible election in the state. U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Governor, and 59 state legislative seats were on ballots across Alaska with over 200 total candidates running for public office. Teamsters Local 959 endorsed many candidates across the state. Many qualified people worked hard to secure votes for their respective seats, but we wanted to highlight two candidates, Heath Smith and Angie Fowles.

Heath Smith is a Teamster member of 25 years and worked for UPS out of Homer. Heath was first elected to the Homer city council in 2015 and has served the community of Homer ever since. He decided to shift his dedication to public service from the local level to the state level and filed to run for State Senate. Heath's campaign has taken him all over the Kenai Peninsula as well as Kodiak Island. Heath is a registered Republican who campaigned on fiscal responsibility, establishing a fiscal plan, and serving the entirety of his district.



Angie Fitch is a former Teamster who worked for University Redi Mix for 11 years driving a mixer truck. Angie's long tenure with the Teamsters includes her work with Black Gold, H&H Contractors Paving, and Exclusive Paving where she drove end dumps, truck pups, side, and belly dumps. Angie filed to run for the state legislature house district 36.

Angie has spent countless hours driving to parts of the rural district providing veterinary care. House District 36 encompasses Tok, Delta Junction, Kenny Lake, Glennallen, Nenana, and Tetlin.

Teamsters Local 959 would like to thank these members for stepping up and putting their names forward to make Alaska a better place for everyone. Elections have the power to help our business agents bargain, expand, and improve retirement benefits and get more money into Teamsters' pockets. Participation in these elections is key for workers to be represented at the bargaining table and in the legislature.

**Remember, when Teamsters vote, workers win!**



Shiela Mahaney is a celebrated painter and an award-winning international photographer who is living her dream in Anchorage, Alaska. She is a prolific artist whose work has garnered prestigious accolades and has been displayed in fine art museums across the globe.

Shiela is excited and proud to share her beautiful creations, and she hopes you enjoy experiencing her artwork as much as she enjoys presenting it to you.

Nearly 17 years ago, Shiela discovered a winning way to become a career artist with a pension plan! She joined Teamsters Local 959 where she is a Shop Steward at UPS and is currently serving as Safety Committee Co-Chair.



# BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

## UPDATES—STATEWIDE

### ~Eileen Whitmer, Business Representative~

2022 was quite a year for negotiations for Local 959, and it's not over yet! We entered 2022 with roughly 20 collective bargaining agreements expiring within the year that needed to be negotiated, and some already expired with negotiations in progress. Local 959 Business Representatives have done a great job to date and will finish the year strong.

The state of the economy made for some contentious sessions with employers who were used to holding their purse strings tight for the past decade when inflation was unheard of, and consumer price indexes were low. Several times this year, we were forced to use the tools that are available to us to put pressure on these companies. We had walk-offs, unfair labor practice strikes, rallies, picketing, and a strike vote. Our labor community and our International Brotherhood stepped up big for Local 959!

With a lot of hard work and help from the IBT Strategic Research Team in some of the negotiations, we were able to get increases in wages and benefits that far exceeded previous negotiations. I've said it once and I'll say it a million times, we cannot be successful without the firsthand knowledge that our members provide at the bargaining table. Negotiating committees made up of bargaining unit members are the key to successful negotiations. Even more important, our bargaining units unified and stepped up in solidarity to show their employers that they were not going to be pushed aside. Our Union is only as strong as our membership and this year you proved how strong we are! We took on some giants and prevailed!



**Doyon  
Negotiations Committee**

### ~Jarrod Tamez, Business Representative~

**REDI-MIX** This was a difficult season for our Fairbanks area Redi-Mix agreements. There was too much work to be done and not enough drivers willing to pour concrete. All signs indicate that the growth trend within interior Alaska will continue to accelerate in the coming years. For that reason, we are continuing to recruit for our Redi-Mix agreements throughout the winter. I need our members, retirees, and drivers everywhere to know that these are great jobs. In 5 months of work this past summer, you could have made between \$50-\$60K. After a summer work season at Redi-Mix, we can place you at one of our other winter seasonal jobs, like Sourdough Fuel or Durham School Svs. Heck, you could move to someplace cheap for the winter, like Vietnam if you wanted. There's lots of work to be done during the summer building season and that means lots of money to be made for people willing to work. Spread the word about these opportunities and call me in the spring!!! DO IT!!! Write it down on your calendar and set a reminder on your phone. Roll up your left sleeve and

write on your forearm in bright red ink, **“\$\$\$ CALL JARROD IN FEBRUARY! REDI-MIX \$\$\$.”**

**SOURDOUGH FUEL** We concluded negotiations over the summer with a 20% wage escalation over three years. Despite a 12% increase in the first year of the deal, we struggle to attract new drivers. The labor shortage is affecting every industry and it will get worse before it gets better. I've been working closely with Sourdough's management team to address the shortages and find a solution.

**UPS** The UPS National Master Agreement is the single largest labor contract in the nation (maybe the world). We will be entering negotiations with UPS in February 2023 to seek a deal for the National Master, Western Supplement, and Alaska Rider. This process will be a concerted effort coordinated by the International.

We've begun hearing some vague rumblings and rumors about topics of negotiation and potential attack vectors that the company may try to exploit. I'd like to remind everyone involved that this will be a long process. The proceedings will most likely generate a lot of useless information (noise) compared to actionable topics of discussion (signal). All of us need to recognize a rumor when we hear it and call it out as such. Maintaining focus through this process will be challenging for all of us, myself included. Call me if you have any questions.

**IN OTHER NEWS** I've been involved with the Alaska Works Partnership here in Fairbanks, working on veteran outreach and job placement in cooperation with Helmets to Hardhats. The program is being re-established following the COVID disruption. If you or anyone you know is a veteran in need of a job, please call me. Even if you don't want to drive a truck, I can connect you with a network of people who can get you where you want to be.

It's business as usual at Weaver Bros, Lynden, ALSCO, and RNDC. I've been busy with various grievance handling and contract enforcement. Why haven't you called me about Redi-Mix yet? I'm serious, stop reading, pick up the phone and call me. Finally, a big thanks to our Shop Stewards and members at each of my contracts. You are the first line of defense and I rely on all of you heavily—you are the Union. Thank You.

**Jarrod Tamez (907) 250-7287**





# BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (CONT.)

## UPDATES—STATEWIDE (CONT.)

~Norm Blair, Business Representative~ **KODIAK•JUNEAU•SKAGWAY•KENAI**

Our members got the news from the government that they will be working for Choctaw Defense Services (Kodiak) for another year. Originally, the contract was to end this December and a successor contractor was to take over but because of a bidding delay by the government, Choctaw was awarded a 6-month extension. I predict that another 6-month extension will be given to the current contractor. Our members can look forward to a 5% increase in their wages on the first of the year that was recently negotiated and ratified.

Casillas Partners, LLC (Kodiak) is the contractor who was awarded to take care of the commissary at Kodiak a couple of years ago. This contract went out on the market again and most likely will be awarded sometime in February 2023.

Matson Navigation (Kodiak) hostlers ratified their contract this late summer. After a couple of meetings in Anchorage and Kodiak, we were able to come to an agreement and the contract was ratified by the members. Earlier this year, both the hostlers and the maintenance shop workers decided to direct their raise to their pension.

Lynden Transport, Inc.—Kenai Peninsula is finally at full staff in Soldotna. They hired two new city drivers and things are going well. The extra drivers ease the burden of overtime and burnout.

Catholic Community Services (Juneau) are looking for drivers.

Negotiations with Pacific Artic Rail & Navigation (PARN) (Skagway) got off to a slow start, meeting at the end of March this year. Then, due to their busy train season, we weren't able to resume negotiations until September. But good progress was made and we look forward to meeting again soon to get it done.

The Longshoremen of Southeast Stevedoring (Ketchikan) ratified their contract earlier this summer and the crew walked away pleased with increases to wages and pension contributions, along with better working conditions when handling heavy lines and additional manpower.

UPS Kenai, Homer, & Seward, just like anywhere else, will be hit hard this season as the Holidays approach. These brothers and sisters will be putting in a lot of hours to make sure to deliver all the packages. Kenai has hired some pre-sorters, PVD drivers, and seasonal drivers to tackle the anticipated uptick in package delivery.

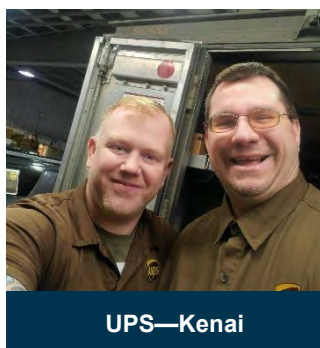
UPS Kodiak is a busy place to be this time of the year. The drivers put in a lot of overtime during the regular season but during the peak season, OH MY! This is a satellite station, they have no supervisor on location, and our head driver, Roy Chavarria is the superstar there!

UPS Juneau will be getting a tug to pull the package carts soon. They were pulling them by hand, and it caused some unsafe working conditions. When we notified the supervisor, they agreed to the suggestion.

**All UPS workers are going into the peak season. Listed below are some of the situations they will encounter:**

- |                       |                                       |                                |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 🕒 Long hours daily    | ☁ Inclement weather                   | 🛣 Road conditions              |
| 🌙 Driving in the dark | 🚗 High traffic & reckless drivers     | ❄ Treading slippery surfaces   |
| 🐕 Dogs & wild animals | 📦 Lifting heavy & odd-shaped packages | 👤 Careless people & the public |

***When our packages are delivered by our brothers & sisters in brown, remember to give them a big THANK YOU!!!***



UPS—Kenai



UPS—Sitka



UPS—Ketchikan



Choctaw Defense Services  
Coms Crew



Matson Navigation—Kodiak

# BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (CONT.)

## UPDATES—STATEWIDE (CONT.)

### ~James McMilon, Business Representative~ **CONSTRUCTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

It's been a busy summer and fall with heavy highway construction picking up all around the state. Maintenance work on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System is ramping back up after a few slow years due to COVID and low oil prices. The Ready-Mix season across Fairbanks and Anchorage is very robust. We finished a new 3-year North Slope Agreement, and will be going into negotiations with the Associated General Contractors of Alaska at the end of this year. We have had several apprenticeship openings, with some folks finishing up their training at the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center this past fall and others just getting started in preparation for this winter's work on the North Slope.

**SANTOS FUNDS PIKKA** On August 17, 2022, Santos announced moving forward the with Pikka Phase 1 project. The 2.6-billion-dollar project is expected to produce 80,000 barrels of oil per day with the first production in 2026 and create more than 500 construction jobs. We expect there to be minimal work this season with the bulk of the pipeline work to start the winter of the 2023/2024 season.

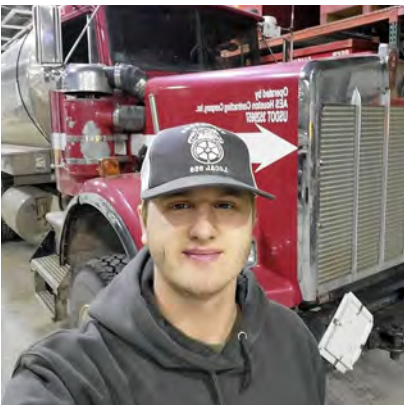
**NORTH SLOPE AGREEMENT** We finished negotiating a historic 3-year agreement with the North Slope Contractors Association. Teamsters will see 7% increases to the Wage and Benefits package for each of the three years. In addition, unpaid travel time has been reduced from 45 minutes each way to 30 minutes each way, and those that are required to work on inclement weather days, while most of the crew is at camp, will receive time and one-half for those hours worked.

**WINTER PIPELINE WORK** Houston Contracting has been awarded approximately 23 miles of the pipeline this season. Teamsters should see a peak of 31 drivers and 7 surveyors from the beginning of January 2023 through March 2023 on this project. AFC/Nanuq currently has some supply and exploration ice roads to complete in addition to some small gravel hauls.

**BRICE, INC.** A winter project in Nenana, the Totchaket Road Improvement and extension, should have approximately 10 Teamsters running side dumps and articulated end dumps with work that will go on for about 3 months.

**GRANITE CONSTRUCTION CO.** Another successful season was completed at Fort Knox on the Heap Leach field. The season went very smoothly thanks to the weather cooperating. As a result, our members saw far fewer rainy days while we had 18-20 Teamsters in rock trucks and 2 water truck drivers on this project this past summer.

**USIBELLI COAL MINE** We are at the end of a four-year agreement; therefore, negotiations began this November. We've already had a proposal meeting with the group and have selected a negotiations committee consisting of Michelle Vlah, Bill Carder, Dakota MacIver, and David Hayes. I thank these folks in advance for the work they will be putting in to make sure we secure a strong, new contract.



**Colin Whalen**  
Apprentice Construction Driver  
Journeyed Out June 1, 2022

*Colin Whalen*  
"Joining the apprenticeship was a big risk, but I soon discovered it would pay off! With the instruction and hands-on training, I learned all I needed to thrive in one of the most genuinely rewarding jobs I have ever had. I learned how to drive and operate various trucks including boom trucks, lowboys, rock trucks, side dumps, and vac trucks. Skilled Teamster construction drivers are in high demand. I would encourage anyone who wants to make a massive improvement in their life and build a career to apply for a Teamster apprenticeship."



**Pat Tyson (Left) & John Spelta**  
(Right) Pump station 5

### ~Derek Musto, Business Representative~

**ALASKA RAILROAD** Operations have been busy for this time of year and the Railroad has had several new hires in both Anchorage and Fairbanks. Business Representative Jeremy Holan and myself have been regularly meeting each month with our new probationary journeyman mechanics and trainees and we are proud to announce two new shop stewards, Jamie Kirkmeyer and Will Helm.

**MOTION PICTURE/COMMERCIAL DRIVERS & WRANGLERS** While the Motion Picture/Studio and Commercial work has slowed considerably since the Alaska film tax credit program ended in 2015, we have seen an uptick in Studio and commercial work in recent months. Local 959 members have worked at various times on the Disney Production TV show *Alaska Daily*. Our membership worked to support filming needs for both the pilot and for episodes during Season One. This production was filmed at various locations in Anchorage and put many members to work. If you have not heard of or seen *Alaska Daily* already, please check it out on Hulu. Local 959 members also worked on an upcoming commercial shoot for a major automotive manufacturer that will hopefully be aired sometime this Holiday Season. If you are interested in Motion Picture/Commercial Driver work, please contact Derek Musto at (907) 751-8519.



# BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (CONT.)

## UPDATES—STATEWIDE (CONT.)

~Derek Musto, Business Representative~ (cont.)

**ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT** After a lengthy negotiation that focused on wages and working conditions, we are proud to announce our ASD Bus Drivers & Attendants negotiation committee reached an agreement with the District and our membership overwhelmingly ratified a new 3-year Tentative Agreement. The new agreement significantly increased driver and attendant wages, improved members' health and welfare contributions, strengthened work rules, removed overtime limitations, and created a new seniority based system for the assignment of extra work. Just like in the Mat-Su, Anchorage School bus worker shortages have been an ongoing and regular topic in the news and we believe this new agreement will help retain qualified school bus drivers and attendants and assist us in the recruitment of new school bus workers at the Anchorage School District.



Trunk or Treat with ASD Bus Workers, raising money for their end-of-year party.

Contract negotiations for ASD Food Service Workers have been ongoing and continue with the District. We have a strong negotiation committee that is working hard for the membership and standing firm to address membership issues. A contract negotiation update meeting will soon be held for the membership, please keep an eye out for the notice or join us on our Cafeteria Workers Facebook page for more details. The grievances about snow days and holidays remain unresolved and while these issues are pending arbitration, the District and the Union continue to have dialog attempting to avoid arbitration and find a mutually agreeable resolution to each issue.

With the recent retirement of long-time shop steward Joe Gosselin, III with ASD Warehouse & Maintenance, we are proud to announce that Jason Baker and William Fink, III have been appointed as new shop stewards. Both will do a good job representing our membership and come from different backgrounds. Our current contract expires on June 30, 2023, so we have started the process of selecting a bargaining committee and distributing bargaining priority surveys to the membership. Members of the bargaining unit should keep an eye out for membership meeting notices on the bulletin boards at your work site. As this process moves forward, there will be many opportunities to get involved and have a say in your contract no matter where you work—Warehouse, HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical, or any other shop, we look forward to addressing everyone's needs in the bargaining unit.



ASD Bus & Attendants Negotiation Committee



ASD Food Service Negotiation Meeting

~Thor Brown, Business Representative~

**PORT OF ANCHORAGE** Since the beginning of this year, our Political Coordinator, Patrick FitzGerald, and I have been working with employers and contacting local, State, and national legislators on securing funding for the Port of Alaska. At this point, more than 250 million dollars have been allocated for the project and we are all hoping for more funding in the future. This is a crucially important piece of infrastructure for Alaska and its refurbishment will benefit us by creating construction work and maintaining a safe workplace for the Port of Alaska members who will use the new infrastructure and every Alaskan who uses the goods that come into the port.

**FACILITY SERVICES, INC.** The bargaining unit for Facility Services, Inc. (FSI) at the Elmendorf hospital recently got a wage increase based on an updated agreement with the employer. FSI has been an excellent employer to work with and we look forward to working with them in the future. Remember, the maintenance team for that hospital are Teamsters so, if you're a veteran or know someone who uses the hospital on base, be sure and say hi to the "red shirts", they are your brothers and sisters.

**APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM** Business Representatives, David Nichols & James McMillon, Anchorage Dispatcher, Devin Campbell, and I have been working with the Teamsters Training Trust on the apprenticeship program. Both construction and freight are hopefully coming up in big years. There are job opportunities open for CDL drivers all over the state. If you have questions about becoming a truck driver, reach out to the training trust. Apprenticeship Coordinator, Cheri Lipps is always ready to help and we have avenues to help with tuition that will make the training costs a lot easier to manage.

# BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (CONT.)

## UPDATES—STATEWIDE (CONT.)

~Matt McCarty, Business Representative~

**KIEWIT, INC.** Kiewit was awarded the JBER runway extension, a \$300 million 4 to 5 year project that will put 50-60 Teamsters to work year-round for at least 3 years. This is a massive project, moving 12 million yards of material in 1 year, which will take Caterpillar 777s, 745s, and a few water Buffalos. The project started putting members to work in the middle of this past October and continues to fill positions to get a full crew up and running. Local 959 is proud and honored to be part of the legacy with ongoing construction and support of Federal Military Defense projects.

**TCC JOINT VENTURE** New Teamster positions with TCC oil spill response in Valdez have been added this year. These positions fall under the T.A.P.S. agreement and are one week-on/week-off, full-time schedules. Of the more unique Teamster positions we have, a Class A CDL is required and will also provide on-the-job training for operating small boats, airboats, and snowcats, as well as working with the U.S. Coast Guard and more. Call Devin in Dispatch for details at (907) 751-8566.

Our Teamsters in the Sand & Gravel industries have had a busy year. Both companies supplied the cement to a large 3-year central transfer station project. We negotiated a Civil Works Agreement on this project which gave members prevailing wages and benefits. The Union caught a mistake in the amount of the prevailing wage benefits that were being paid by the contractors, and through discussions got every member on that project backpay for every hour worked for the prevailed rate negotiated.

~Jace Digel, Chief of Staff~

**BIG DREAMS TRANSPORT, LTD** Big Dreams continues to hire Line Haul drivers across the state. Their owner-operator agreement renewed by at end of October. They have been under contract since 2015 and continue to grow.

The Local would like to welcome newly hired Adara Powell and Azzur Neely to the Dues department.

Special thanks to Nicolette Hernandez for continuing her leadership and supervision in the Dues department as well as becoming the new Accountant for the Local. Nicolette has put endless hours into making sure these departments are running efficiently.

Stephanie Massie has moved into the Bookkeeper position while keeping her dues accounts until additional dues training can be completed.

Thanks to Crystal Radar and Shawna Bragg for keeping track of grievances and contract negotiations and supporting the Business Representatives in their day-to-day business.

~Yolandous Williams, Business Representative~

**UNITED PARCEL SERVICE, INC.** Contract negotiation time has arrived. We will open discussions with UPS on the Local Rider on February 6, 2023, Western Rider in March 2023, and the National Contract in April 2023. Our Local Rider surveys are out and proposal meetings will be held via Teams in November, December, and January. We are gathering emails from all our members to use for ratification voting when it is time. If your email has changed, please let us know. We will do our best to keep you informed as we go through negotiations. Knowledge and Unity will be the keys for us to be successful during this negotiation.

**REPUBLIC PARKING & MV TRANSPORTATION** As we reach the end of the first year of new three-year agreements, I want to thank the Teamster Members in each bargaining unit for the effort you have put in this year. We are doing well at our work sites and it shows in the pride and ability of your effort each day. Your work makes a difference, thank you!



Jack Prop—Safeway Sanitation

~Stevenson Polintan, Business Representative~

**SAFeway WAREHOUSE** On April 7, 2022, Teamsters working under the warehouse contract ratified a 5-year agreement. Benefits include a 20% overall increase in wages and pension contributions, and nothing changed on their Health care benefits with one of the best ones out there. Wages progression dropped from 6 years to 3 years top rate scale. This year, the unit will get an 8% bump on their wages and a 3% bump each year for the remainder of the contract. For new employees starting in April 2022, pay increases are as follows:

1st year: \$22.73 per hour  
2nd year: \$24.43 per hour  
3rd year: \$26.13 per hour  
4th year: \$34.46 per hour

1st-year increase at \$1.80 per hour, 2nd-year increase at \$1.70 per hour, 3rd-year increase at \$1.70, and top rate beginning of 4th-year employment increase at \$8.33 per hour.



Dustin Griffith & Gene Jansen,  
TCC Valdez Main Terminal



# BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (CONT.)

## UPDATES—STATEWIDE (CONT.)

~Stevenson Polintan, Business Representative~ (cont.)

**SAFeway SANITATION** The Sanitation contract also ratified a 5-year agreement. Benefits include their own 20% overall increase in wages and pension contributions with nothing changed on their Health care benefits. As I said, one of the best out there with its co-pay premium! Wages progression dropped from 7 years to 3 years top rate scale, 8% bump in their wages this year, and a 3% bump each year for the remainder of the contract. For new employees starting this year in April 2022, pay increases are as follows:

1st year: \$19.68 per hour  
2nd year: \$21.28 per hour  
3rd year: \$22.88 per hour  
4th year: \$27.43 per hour

1st-year increase at \$1.60 per hour, 2nd-year increase at \$1.60 per hour, 3rd-year increase at \$1.60 per hour and top rate beginning of 4th-year employment increase at \$4.20 per hour.

**ALSCO** On August 16, 2022, Non-Commission Drivers received an additional \$0.85 per hour on their wages for the new employees and dropped their step wages from 10 years to 7 years top scale for the remainder of the contract until February 2025.

**DENALI SHIPPING** The bargaining unit crew received an additional \$1.75 per hour on their wages for the remainder of the contract until April 2025.

**LYNDEN TRANSPORT, INC.** On July 16, 2022, the Warehouse crew's wages got a bump from \$17.50 to \$20.00 per hour.

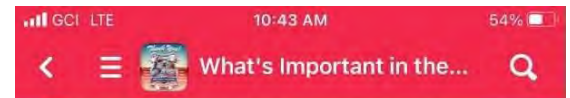
~Kelsey Taylor, Business Representative~

**MATSU SCHOOL BUS WORKERS** *Coming together for the community and a fair contract!* This year, more than any other, our community is looking to School Bus Workers for help. Staffing shortages and rolling transportation blackouts have had a significant impact on students, families, and businesses. In a disruptive and uncomfortable way, the fundamental value of School Bus Workers is being recognized by the community. The value of raising standards, wages, benefits, and addressing problematic scheduling, and pay practices can no longer be ignored. It is to every Matsu resident's benefit to have a professional, safe, clean, and reliable school bus service.

Unbeknownst to the average Matsu family, Teamster members are advocating for safety in the workplace, going the extra mile for students, and when needed, showing up to school board meetings to keep the focus where it belongs. I give a HUGE thanks and encouragement to the Matsu School Bus Workers as they demonstrate their unwavering determination and support for their efforts in securing a safer and more reliable school bus service with the new contractor.

Teamster School Bus Workers are resolutely focused on making sure that our children have the best, most reliable, and safest transportation service available. This goes hand in hand with improving the working conditions, wages, and benefits at Durham School Services.

The work that Teamster School Bus Workers perform is essential to this community. Show your support for School Bus Workers as negotiations continue for this bargaining unit. Updates to come. Follow our social media to stay up to date, [www.facebook.com/TeamstersUnionLocal959](https://www.facebook.com/TeamstersUnionLocal959)



Shelby Axberg is at Matsu - Durham School Services.  
1h · Palmer, AK · 📍

With so much negative posted about school bus drivers I HAD to share how amazing ours is! We've had our school bus driver for a few years now & even on the first big snowfall he is RIGHT ON TIME STILL! 🕒 Bravo Mr. Randy of bus #45 for John Shaw Elementary School!! 🚌  
★★★★★ So thankful for a bus driver who is not only always timely but who always keeps our kiddos safe! 🙏 Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District



A Matsu Valley School District parent, Shelby Axberg, gave her thoughts and a tremendous kudos-filled shoutout on Facebook about her child's bus driver. She happily permitted us to share a screenshot of her comments and further said, "We absolutely love and are so thankful for our amazing bus driver! He's always gone above and beyond and truly cared so much about the well-being and timeliness of our kiddos! We always know our kiddos are safe when with him in his bus and his care... Thank YOU for seeing my post and wanting to use it! Makes my heart beam!"

We can never get enough of hearing GREAT things about our members — caring people who work hard, go the extra mile, and take **PRIDE** in everything they do!



Durham School Services



# NEWS FROM THE HALL

## ~ A Special Message ~

It can get crazy and unbelievably hectic in the business agent world. Our job is to take care of our bargaining unit members and I believe we do it well and that's because we have such an awesome administrative staff supporting us. They're the easy button or the go-to people when we need help and, trust me, I can be very needy sometimes or even forgetful. Not only are they good at what they do, but they also bring a certain cheerful atmosphere to the workplace as well. So, I would like to say THANK YOU for all you do, I really appreciate your help.

~ Norm Blair, Business Representative ~

Local 959's Anchorage Dues office has two new Union Membership & Dues Clerks, Adara Powell (left) and Azzur Neely (right). Both of these young new hires are learning fast and have hit the ground running. Next time you're in the Anchorage Hall, make sure to welcome them to the Union.



## Farewell to Friends

This past summer, Local 959 said goodbye to and celebrated the retirements of Kris Lira and Ann Williams.

Kris was our Controller and retired with 18 years under her belt. She's been traveling and spending time with her kids and grandchild.

Ann started her 959 history in 1977 at Anchorage Cold Storage, then came to the Hall in 2004 where she held many administrative positions, most recently as a Union Membership & Dues Clerk. She will stay busy in her retirement focusing on her and her husband's own business.

We wish both of these lovely ladies a wonderful retirement, and thank them for their longevity with their union 🌸



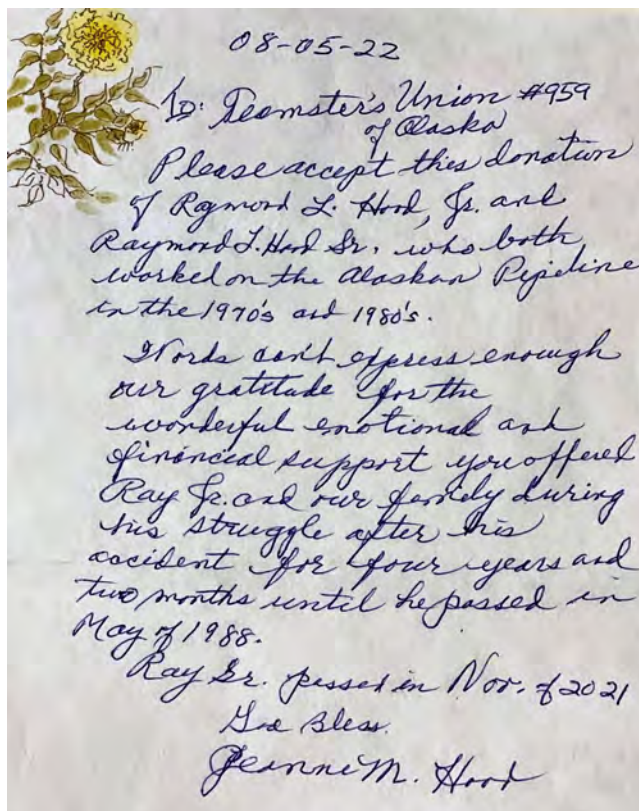
Ann Williams



Kris Lira



Halloween was a hit at the Alaska Teamster - Employer Welfare & Pension Trusts



Ms. Jeanne M. Hood, the wife of the late retired member, Mr. Raymond L. Hood, Sr., made a generous contribution to the Jesse L. Carr Charity this year on behalf of her late son and late husband. Ms. Hood included a handwritten letter thanking the Local for all the years of support her family received from the union. Her contribution was made as a way to pay it forward, and a donation to the JLC does just that, by helping Alaska charities in need.

Thank you, Ms. Hood! We greatly appreciate your donation to the JLC. Your kind words are a testament to how being a Teamster truly does make life better.



# MEMBERS ABOUND



25 year UPS driver, Mark Carroll moves on to his next chapter of life as he enters the exclusive guaranteed benefit full pension club ✨

***Congratulations!***

"Well, as a matter of random happenstance I met a fellow UPS retiree, Kevin Franklin—33 years of service out of Ardmore Oklahoma Local 886. Struck up a conversation at a scenic turnout in Kiamichi hills, Southeast Oklahoma near Arkansas."

~Brother Mark Carroll~

Pictured—Local 886 Brother Kevin Franklin (left)  
& Local 959 Brother Mark Carroll (right)

**From Alaska to Oklahoma,  
Teamsters are everywhere!**



## MEMBERS ABOUND (CONT.)



This past September, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Women's Conference was held in Seattle, WA at the Westin Hotel. This annual event brings together upwards of 1,500 Teamsters from the U.S., Canada, and Puerto Rico in sisterhood & solidarity. With featured speaker sessions and many educational workshops, attendees have an opportunity to learn and strategize to strengthen and grow the union. Members attended many workshops and special events over the 3-day conference, even a UPS rally! Many new connections can be made at the Women's Conference, in turn building a stronger sense of pride in the union. Next year's Women's Conference is set to be held in Nashville, TN., with dates to be announced at a later time.



Vesta Spencer, Yolandous Williams, & Shiela Mahaney  
at the 2022 Women's Conference



Labor Day Parade  
Fairbanks



ASD  
Trunk or Treat



Labor Day Parade  
Fairbanks



Labor Day Parade  
Fairbanks



ALIVE Fall Drawing  
Shenanigans ☺



Matson Kodiak

With the passing of their President, Mark Johnson, the 959 Retirees Association decided to bring their association to an end. With that decision, they chose to donate the group's remaining funds to the Jesse L. Carr Charity. Their Trustee, Lloyd "Skip" Weeks presented Secretary-Treasurer, Gary Dixon with their generous check. These retirees are still very active and attend many Local 959 events ♥

*thank you*





## MEMBERS ABOUND (CONT.)



On July 19, 2022, the Walter Harper Project unveiled a 13-foot bronze statue of Walter Harper, including his dog, Snowball at the Doyon Plaza in downtown Fairbanks. At 20 years of age, Harper's Koyukon Athabascan subsistence skills and courage contributed to the success of the 1913 pioneer ascent of Denali. On summit day, Harper took the lead and became the first person to stand atop North America's tallest mountain, Denali, an Athabascan word meaning The Great One.

Teamsters Local 959 is a proud sponsor of this project. Pictured (left) with the statue is Megan Barker, Fairbanks Union Membership & Dues Clerk.



Teamsters with Lisa Murkowski at the Golden Days Parade in Fairbanks



Frank Popp Retires from Wolf Creek



Teamsters play in the AGC Golf Tourney in Fairbanks



Retiree, Kris Lira Visits the Washington Monument

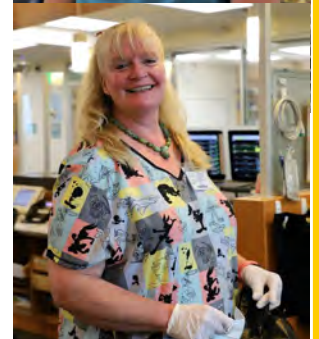


Solid Waste Services



Business Rep. Jarrod Tamez, Brother Peter Jackson, & Business Rep. Jeremy Holan

Local 959 joined in wishing our UPS Brother, Peter Jackson a happy & well-deserved retirement. In his 29-year-long career, he maintained a PERFECT driving record, with not one accident or incident. Outstanding! He also served the Union during his career when he chose to serve as a Shop Steward. Peter wore many hats as a mentor, leader, advocate, role model, and friend. Thank you, Peter! You will be missed. *Congratulations* 🌟



South Peninsula Hospital  
Homer, AK



# LOCAL 959 EVENTS



This year's Jesse L. Carr Charity Golf Tournament marked 38 years of bringing the wonderful people of our community together for the benefit of many worthwhile local charities. During this year's event, the JLC Board presented our honorary charities, STAR, Inc., and the Boys & Girls Clubs – Alaska each \$5,000. As always, without the support of our staff, local businesses, corporations, labor unions, and individuals, our event wouldn't be one of the premier tournaments in Alaska, helping charities receive the help they need. We give a sincere THANK YOU to all who participated this year!



## ~Save the Date~

Join us in helping Alaska charities next year at the 39th Annual JLC event, set for Friday, July 14, 2023, at the Anchorage Golf Course. For info on becoming a sponsor and/or playing with us, please email the Event Coordinator, Jenne Kriner, at [jkriner@akteamsters.com](mailto:jkriner@akteamsters.com) or call (907) 751-8542.





## LOCAL 959 EVENTS (CONT.)



The Local 959 picnics held this past summer, where members came together to share the sunshine of the season with great local fare & greater company, were a hit! Teamsters and their families enjoyed time in Homer at Karen Hornaday Park watching the kids play, in Fairbanks at Pioneer Park sharing memories with retirees and meeting Teamster-endorsed candidates, & in Anchorage at Cuddy Midtown Family Park with a mix of members from MOA, ASD, UPS, Matson, and more. We love getting together with members, retirees, and all their families to share moments & make memories. Thank you to all who could attend. Check our social media and website for next year's summertime event dates!



## FAIRBANKS LABOR DAY PARADE & PICNIC

This year marked the 38th annual Labor Day Parade & Picnic, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Labor Day parade since COVID-19 shut the world down 2 years ago. With the limitation of gathering in 2020 and the new COVID-19 strand in 2021, the never-ending pandemic continued to stop the Fairbanks Central Labor Council from conducting the parade and picnic as normal. But with the limitations on public gatherings lifted, it was a large turnout for all the affiliate Union's participants. The comradery and solidarity shown by all the participating union members truly reminded everyone how we are in this labor movement together.

It was a great event remembering our brothers and sisters that lead this parade before us, those that started this fight for fair treatment in the workplace, the 40-hour work week, weekends, and helped put an end to child labor. Of course, these are just a few of the many great things our brothers and sisters fought for and some gave their life for.



Teamsters Local 959 members showed up strongly supporting the Parade & Picnic. Between the participants walking in the parade and the members driving their Employer's donated vehicles in the parade, Local 959 won the participation trophy again this year, the second time in the history of the trophy that a union other than Laborers Local 942 has won it.

The only two names on the participation trophy are Teamsters Local 959 and Laborers Local 942. We hope to continue having the most participation and continue to host the trophy in our Fairbanks Office.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to Durham School Services, RNDC, and UPS for allowing our members to use one or more of their vehicles in the parade.

**~Jeremy Holan, Business Representative~**



# ALASKA TEAMSTER-EMPLOYER SERVICE TRAINING TRUST

## **21st Annual Fairbanks Arctic Joint Pipeline Training**

This year the temperatures were milder than in the past, but that didn't take anything away from the training each craft received. The Teamsters along with the Laborers, Operating Engineers, and Pipefitters all came together for two weeks at the end of October and the first week in November. The Teamsters train alongside other crafts to learn what building and maintaining a pipeline is about, which prepares the apprentices for working on pipeline jobs. The training mirrors an actual job or project with an extra emphasis on safety. We had four members in the training this year, Eddie Chavis Jr., Keanu Macphee, Talon Hill, and Joseph Van Slyke. All of them walked away with additional skills and knowledge.



## **Required Certifications**

Many of the classes we provide require certifications to take to the job. We train year-round and prioritize training for construction members between seasons. If you need training or recertification and our schedule doesn't seem to match yours, give us a call. Chances are we can get you taken care of.



## **Upgrading your CDL License**

Any time you upgrade your CDL license, the new regulations come into effect. For example:

- ◆ Class B CDL upgrading to Class A CDL
  - ◇ Theory course & behind-the-wheel training course is required
- ◆ Class A or B CDL adding the passenger bus endorsement
  - ◇ Theory course & behind-the-wheel training course is required
- ◆ Hazmat Materials endorsement for the first time on your CDL
  - ◇ Theory course is required

The Training Trust offers online training for the Theory courses, which gives you more flexibility, especially if you are currently working. After the Theory course is completed, you have up to one year to complete the behind-the-wheel training and road test. If you are just looking to remove a restriction on an existing CDL then the new regulations don't affect you.

Examples: L-airbrake, E-automatic transmission, O-other than standard 5th wheel.

You are still required to obtain a Commercial Learner Permit (CLP) when removing restrictions. If you are road testing, you will need a CLP.



**Contact the Alaska Teamster-Employer Service Training Trust  
by phone at (907) 278-3674 or email at [ATESTT@ACSALASKA.NET](mailto:ATESTT@ACSALASKA.NET).  
Monday-Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**



# TEAMSTERS HEALTH & WELFARE AND PENSION FUNDS

## HEALTH AND WELFARE NEWS



### 2023 TEAMStar Retiree Group Health Plan Rates

For retirees covered under the Retiree Group Health Plan, effective January 1, 2023, there will be a \$4.00 rate increase to Plan F and a \$31.50 rate **decrease** to the Medicare Part D premium.

For those with an automatic deduction from your pension benefit and/or an automatic withdrawal from your bank account, please be aware that these increases will be applied to your January 1, 2023 coverage with TEAMStar.

Please call the Trust office at (907) 751-9700, or toll-free at 1-800-478-4450, if you have any questions.

### Important Notice to Retirees covered with the Retiree Health Program

The Trustees of the Alaska Teamster-Employer Welfare Trust are pleased to announce that they have secured a renewal of the Retiree Health Program and have contracted with a new prescription drug program for all participating retirees in its retiree program for the calendar year 2023.

If you currently participate in the Retiree Health Program through United American, nothing will change regarding your medical coverage or underwriter for that program. This will remain the same as it has in the past. Continue to use your current ID card for medical providers.

If you currently participate in the Medicare Part D program underwritten by the IBT Voluntary Employee Benefits Trust (VEBA) you will automatically be enrolled in a new Medicare Part D program underwritten by Express Scripts effective as of January 1, 2023.

Your enrollment in the **Express Scripts Medicare Part D** plan is automatic; **you do not have to do anything**. You should not sign up with any other Medicare Part D plan as you cannot be enrolled in this plan and another Part D plan at the same time. Your prescription coverage through Alaska Teamster-Employer Welfare Trust will be canceled if you enroll in another Medicare Part D plan.

The Alaska Teamster-Employer Welfare Trust chose a new Medicare Part D Plan because the Teamster Plus Medicare Part D Plan will not be renewing its Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit contract effective January 1, 2023. This means that in 2023, Teamster Plus will no longer offer Medicare Part D. Until your enrollment in Teamster Plus Medicare Part D ends on December 31, 2022, you should keep using Teamster Plus Medicare Part D network pharmacies to fill your prescriptions.

Beginning January 1, 2023, your benefits program for your medical coverage and prescription drug coverage, co-pays, and plan design will remain essentially unchanged. In December 2022, you will receive a new welcome packet for your prescription drug coverage. This welcome kit will include a new prescription drug ID card, summary of benefits, customer service phone number, Evidence of Coverage, Formulary drug listing, and Pharmacy Directory. You will not get a new medical card.

**Please Note:** You should continue to use your current prescription drug ID card to fill your prescriptions through the remainder of 2022. **Your new prescription drug coverage will begin on January 1, 2023.**

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Q. Do I need a new medical ID card for 2023?**

**A.** No, you can continue to use your United American Insurance Company ID card for medical providers.

**Q. If I get solicitations for prescription drug programs, should I enroll in one of those programs?**

**A.** You should not enroll in another prescription drug program because if you do, it will automatically dis-enroll you from our new Group Medicare Part D Program with Express Scripts for 2023 for you.

**Q. When will I get my new ID card and formulary for the Express Scripts Medicare Part D Program?**

**A.** You will receive your new ID card and all welcome kit materials in December 2022.

**Q. Who do I call if I have questions about this notice?**

**A.** If you have a question about 2023 program and next steps, you can call United American at 1-800-353-6926.

**Q. Who is Express Scripts?**

**A.** Express Scripts contracts with the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) to serve as a Medicare Part D Plan provider and a pharmacy benefit management (PBM) company.

**The Trust Office Lobby hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 12 PM and 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM  
(The Trust office is closed for lunch from 12 PM – 1:00 PM)**

**You may call us at 907-751-9700 or toll free at 1-800-478-4450  
during regular business office hours or email us at  
[benefits@959trusts.com](mailto:benefits@959trusts.com) for assistance.**



# IN MEMORY ♥ DECEASED BROTHERS & SISTERS

## MAY 2022 & PRIOR—Not Previously listed

Jerry Clark	Weaver Bros, Inc.
Lukas Lorenzo	BSA/LB & B Joint Venture
Arthur Lienhart	Anchorage School District
Andrew Hennings	AT&T Alaska
Oscar Estrella	United Parcel Service, Inc.
Samuel Smith	Republic Parking System
Richard Lancot	Price Gregory International
Frank Crawford	Lynden Transport, Inc.
Bertram Bremner	RCA AK Communications
John Orchitt	AT&T Alaska
James Catlin	Merrick Management, Inc.
Charles Adams	Lynden Transport, Inc.
Don Wilson	D W I Truck Leasing
Bettye Pastana	Anchorage School District
Tom Van Ostrand	AIC LLC
Virginia Sutherland	AIC LLC
Cathy Kincaid	Alascom
David Prewitt	Interstate Brands
Robert Thormahlen	Doyles Fuel Service, Inc.
Thomas Sparavalo	Sea Star Stevedore
Dante Cuaresma	Weaver Bros, Inc.
William Berry	Doyon/Aramark
Rose Anne Shoemaker	GE Operations Support, Inc
Lawrence Goodrow	CSX Lines of Alaska LLC
James Armitstead	Matson Navigation Company of AK
Roy Sprinkle	H. C. Price Company
James Doyle	Weaver Bros., Inc.
Richard Olsen	Alaska Teamster Employer Svs
James Thompson	Sealand Freight Service
Karen Oldroyd	Teamsters Local 959
Donald Howell	Teamsters Local 959

## JUNE 2022

Theodore Goebel	Associated Sand & Gravel
Jerry Wilson	Wien Air AK
George Ervine	Matanuska Maid, Inc.
Lee Schooler	AT&T Alascom
Milne Ridlington	Brice, Inc.
James Thurman	Earth Movers of Fairbanks
Stanley Jones	AT&T Alaska

Don Faucher  
Frank Kuehn  
Gayland Ingalls  
Nelson Wight  
Adam Newbold  
John Eberhart  
Rosemary Moss

## JULY 2022

Joel Ryan  
Nancy Cox  
Andy Andersen  
E Roy Brock  
Valerie Matthew  
Gregory Starnier  
Sandra McDougall  
Daniel Stosits

## AUGUST 2022

Edgar Lopez  
Edward Chatman III  
Karl Welm  
Norman Ross  
Tim McKay  
Dorothy Jackson  
Delbert Hayward

## SEPTEMBER 2022

Reta Jordan  
James Arnold  
Jody McIntosh  
Soon Cho  
Barbara Jean Danforth  
Douglas Harding  
Arthur Chappell

## OCTOBER 2022

John Chya  
Carolyn Hutchens  
Bruce Qualey  
Gary Graham  
Lynette Laney

Kiewit Infrastructure  
AK Rapid Transport  
Mammoth of Alaska  
Wien Air  
United Parcel Service, Inc.  
Kentron International  
Alascom

Alascom  
Anchorage School District  
Facility Services MGMT  
Alascom  
Alascom  
United Parcel Service, Inc.  
Lockheed Martin  
ITT Federal Services

Anchorage School District  
United Parcel Service, Inc.  
Alascom  
Sitka Ready Mix  
Northway Enterprises Inc  
Wien Air  
Lockheed Martin

Alascom  
Price Potashnick Codell  
Anchorage School District  
Continental Baking Co.  
Alascom  
Nanuq Incorporated  
Nanuq Incorporated

Brechan Construction  
Alascom  
Fairbanks Sand & Gravel  
Alaska Teamster Employer Svs  
Anchorage School District



**Brother Adam Newbold, UPS**  
1971—2022



**Brother George Varin—SWS**  
AKA "Lord Varin"  
1964—2022



# CELEBRATING MILESTONES

**C**ongratulations to the following individuals who have achieved so many years of continuous dues-paying membership in Local 959!!!

## MAY 2022

Michael Bruner	10
Michael Nutsch	10
Dakota Maciver	10
Danette Castillo	20
Gregory Alley	20
Taig Hoeger	20
Jeffrey Frazier	20
Bernadette Arsenault	20
Wesley Oliver	25
Timothy Dawson	25
Antonio Villasenor	30
George Brown	30
Donald Josten	40
Robert Bemis	50
Sylvia Thompson	50
Robin Gross Jr	50
Fred Di Nicola	55

## JUNE 2022

Kim Bertels	10
Aaron Hamilton	10
Hannah Maillelle	10
Mark Confer	10
Wayne Harford	10
James Swearingin	15
Brian Kelly	15
Tim Philippi	15
Aaron DeBruhl	15
Ronald Parker	15
Michael Frank	15
Frank Pluid	15
Jeffrey Campbell	15
Philip Smith	15

Dana Durham	15
Glenn Bouton Jr	20
David Swanson	25
Ronie Bugarin	25
Thomas Bell	25
Clifford Henderson	25
Rebecca Ray	40
John Tronrud	45
Steven Sather	50
Larry Foster	60

## JULY 2022

Devin Waugaman	10
Geraldine Owens	10
Lue Vue	10
Jeremy James	10
Brittnay Akee	10
Krista Selan	10
Chang Yang	10
Jason Bruhn	15
Mark Norton	15
Melinda Erickson	15
Thurman Tucker	15
Nathan Blome	15
Phil Garvey	15
Pa Jagne	20
Kirk Lally	20
Steven Lancaster	20
Michael Allen	20
Orlando Medina	25
Wayne Burmeister	30
Ireneo Mendoza	30
Tim Sorenson	30
Robert Henry	40
Craig Baker	40
Annie Plutt-Witt	45
William Lesko	55

## AUGUST 2022

Christina Nicholas	10
Shawn George	10
Douglas Breen	10
Kathleen Drew	10

Lori Haning	10
Echo Kincaid	10
Mike Mileski	10
Jesse Grantland	15
Cedy Nelson	15
Kaye Holowatch	15
Monte Barnedt	15
Daniel Jensen III	15
Paul Hemmelgarn	15
Kyle Eberhart	20
Aaron Daniel	20
Fran Godenzi	20
Joe Nalle	20
Jay Casey	25
Douglas Anderson	25
Mark Price	25
Frederick Waltman II	25
Tammi Linn	25
Heath Smith	25
Channing Williams	30
Susan Hubbard	30
Jonathan Lee	30
Ronnie Newsome	30
Fred Simmons	35
Howard Dash	40
Dale Miller	45
James May	45
Gayle Foote	45
John Weum	45

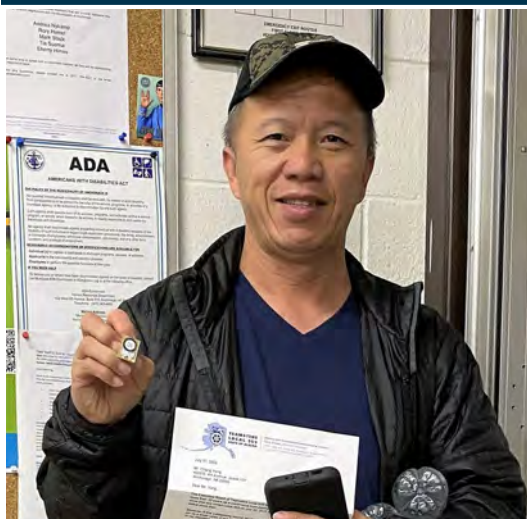
## SEPTEMBER 2022

Erik Thede	10
Robert Bergen	10
Brian Wallow	15
Robert Beth	15
Aldan Fields	15
Ference Taki Takacs	15
Clifford Coleman II	15
Jeffrey Lindow	20
Ryan Thibault	20
Daniel Lynch	20
Kevin Schweisthal	20

Tommy Lopez	20
Gearold Kinsman	20
John Basile	20
Gary Wengert	20
Mario Tacas	25
Israel Cornejo	25
Lance Scott	30
Laren Haskins	30
Bill Tomaro	40
Richard Barber	40
Clyde Armitstead	40
Jerry South	40
Karl Reid	40
Richard Randazzo	55

## OCTOBER 2022

Matthew McCarty	10
John Harrington	10
William Austermuhl	10
Christopher Leone	10
Reynaldo Fortaliza	15
Phillip Finney	15
Richard Tuiletufuga	15
Timothy Woodward	15
Lona Derner	15
Arendell Thomas	15
Allen Finneseth	15
Priscilla Estill	15
Mark Matthews	15
Kurt Foley	15
Lacarol Turner	15
Cynnde Ordway	20
Louis Heinbockel	20
Lydia Fefelov	20
Scott Couey	20
Abel Veldkamp	30
Larry O'Kelley	30
John Montgomery Jr	30
Timothy Linebaugh	30
Clayton Skonberg	35
Eric Hansen	40
James Frankford III	50



**Brother Chang Yang  
with Solid Waste Services  
Receives his 10-year Pin**

"I worked for Anchorage's public transportation department for over 24 years. As a Teamster, I had better wages, working conditions, and job Security. I have enjoyed being a shop steward for Teamsters Local 959."

*~Rick Newsham*

*Congratulations!*



**Brother Rick Newsham  
Retires After 24 Years**

# CELEBRATING RETIREES

**Congratulations** to the following members for their years of service and on a retirement well-deserved!!!

## APRIL 2022

Thomas Hubbard  
Joseph Hobaugh  
David Glover  
Ivan S Tan  
German E Cooper II  
Dale Powell

Granite Construction  
Weaver Bros Inc.  
Brice, Inc.  
United Parcel Service, Inc.  
United Parcel Service, Inc.  
AT&T Alaska

## MAY 2022

Thomas A Phillips  
Paul Farmer  
Paul G Stearns  
Randy Larson  
Clara Wheaton  
Michael McLean  
Michael Starnes  
Douglas E Whorton

Doyon Associated, LLC  
Brice, Inc.  
United Parcel Service Inc  
Weaver Bros. Inc  
AT&T Alaska  
AT&T Alaska  
Bering Straits Technical Services  
United Parcel Service, Inc.

## JUNE 2022

James K. Cratty  
Edwin Sorensen  
Philip Utley  
Richard Rose  
William Ordal  
Dwight H Nelson  
Ron Elledge  
James Elledge  
Robert Lewis  
Walter Whited  
Peter G Huddleston  
Ronald E Guettinger  
James Armitstead

Kodiak Support Services  
Anchorage Sand & Gravel  
Arctic Slope Technical Service  
Alaska Interior Transport  
Arctic Slope Technical Service  
ARCTEC Alaska  
Alascom  
AT&T Alaska  
Usibelli Coal Mine  
BAE Systems  
Wolf Creek Federal Services  
Alaska Industrial, LLC  
Matson Navigation Co.

## JULY 2022

David Miller  
Danny Lee Sykes  
Rand E Bailey  
Timothy Dawson

United Freight & Transport, Inc.  
CSX Lines of Alaska  
Golden Valley Elec. Assoc  
United Parcel Service, Inc.

Milne R Ridlington  
Jeffrey Cizmowski  
Manolo Jingco  
Clyde Buwalda  
Edward G Valdez  
George Owen

## AUGUST 2022

Michael Callahan  
Timothy Smith  
Mary Webb  
Lawrence Glanzer  
Cynthia S Ihde  
Jonathan D Lee  
Michael Fantazzi  
Wayne E Harford  
Edward J. Helinski

Brice, Inc.  
Usibelli Coal Mine  
RNDC Shared Services, LLC  
AILU #1, Longshore  
United Parcel Service, Inc.  
Choctaw Defense Services

ARCTEC Alaska  
ASRC ES - Houston Contracting  
Interstate Brands  
Lynden Transport, Inc.  
Anchorage School District  
United Parcel Service, Inc.  
ASRC ES - Houston Contracting  
Choctaw Defense Services  
United Freight & Transport, Inc.

## SEPTEMBER 2022

Ann Williams  
James Johnson  
Jody McIntosh  
John Reiss  
Cheryl Wisher  
Frank Blood  
Peter Jackson  
Danny L Haynes  
Donald Crosby  
Mark Catlin  
Jerrold Brandenburg  
James Sharp

Teamsters Local 959  
AT&T Alaska  
Anchorage School District  
Wolf Creek Federal Services  
ARCTEC Alaska  
ASRC ES - Houston Contracting  
United Parcel Service, Inc.  
ARCTEC Alaska  
ARCTEC Alaska  
United Parcel Service, Inc.  
Wolf Creek Federal Services  
Usibelli Coal Mine

## OCTOBER 2022

Sherrie Powers  
Mark D Carroll  
Leslie McKinstry  
Daniel Blair  
Janeie Tripp  
Kristi Lira  
Leif A Abel  
Erland Malmgren  
Cynthia Muller  
Frederick W Negus

Choctaw Defense Services  
United Parcel Service, Inc.  
K&L Distributors  
InDyne, Inc.  
Matson Navigation Co.  
Teamsters Local 959  
Carver Construction, LLC  
Doyon/Aramark Denali  
Doyon/Aramark Denali  
Matson Navigation Co.

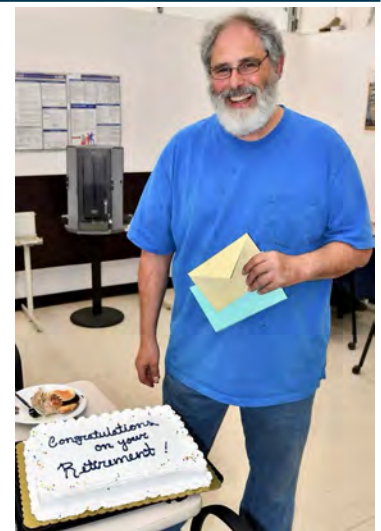
Brother Jeff Cizmowski retired after 32 years at Usibelli Coal Mine. Jeff worked in the Maintenance Department as a field mechanic and was the Union's Chief Shop Steward. He also served on multiple negotiation committees through the years. Jeff was steady, pulled for the underdog, and had your back. He championed the pension knowing it took contributions to have a good retirement. We wish Brother Cizmowski a long and active retirement 🌟



Brother Jeff Cizmowski watching his sons, Kaz & Zach, start the Iron Dog Race in 2020

*congratulations*

This past June, Brother Mike Fantazzi retired after 32+ years. Mike was the dock Foreman at Lynden for 22 years. Then in 2012, he took a dispatch at the Alyeska Central Warehouse as the Foreman. Throughout his career, he has been known for his hard work and dedication to the job. We wish Brother Fantazzi the best as he eases into his much-earned retirement 🌟



Brother Mike Fantazzi



# ON THE MAP

## AT&T Alaska Sustains Damages from Historic Storm Surge

With hurricane-force gusts, over 50-foot waves, and coastal flooding not seen in decades, a historic storm pounded Western Alaska for a couple of days this past September, drowning houses, destroying roads, and knocking out electricity across a sizable portion of the region. As it surged through the Aleutian Islands and into the Bering Sea, the storm that was once Typhoon Merbok changed into a northern Pacific cyclone, carrying a devastating storm surge that submerged coastal towns and villages under several feet of water for hours.

Days after the storm hit, AT&T Alaska Teamster members Paul Ganchenko, Gary Clark, Casey Anderson, & Craig Reda were dispatched from Anchorage to return sites in Nome and surrounding areas to service. Once on-site at the AT&T building in Nome, they got the sump pump's going to drain the basement of the AT&T building. The back windows in the equipment room had pushed open and saltwater from the ocean and wash sprayed across the equipment rack 15' into the building. The entire gen-room and switchgear area was flooded and covered in at least 1" of mud. The equipment was able to be cleaned and restored to operation.

The Golovin site was flooded with 1-2 feet of saltwater and was off the air. Mechanics and electricians arrived and switched anything that was still on to off, cleaned the area, and began restoring the site to communication traffic.

Overall, it was a very significant event for Alaska, especially the villages that were affected, enough so that the Governor issued a disaster declaration. Though the storm caused damage to people's possessions, drinking water infrastructure, airport weather gear, fuel tanks, and both municipal and state roadways, the best and most significant news was that no one was reported injured or killed by this massive storm.





# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## ARE YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW LOOKING FOR A JOB? CHECK OUT OUR JOB BOARD!

**WWW.AKTEAMSTERS.COM/JOB-BOARD**

Statewide non-construction jobs are posted on our website at [www.akteamsters.com/job-board](http://www.akteamsters.com/job-board). Get notified every time our dispatchers post a new job, just subscribe by entering your email address at the top of the Job Board page!

Winter construction work, including the North Slope, is available by contacting either Devin Campbell in Anchorage Dispatch at 907-751-8566 or Kim Brandenburg in Fairbanks Dispatch at 907-450-6123. For any current members holding construction out-of-work cards, please be sure your cards are currently registered and your dues are up to date. If you do not have a construction card, please contact Devin or Kim in Dispatch to find out how to obtain one.



Construction cards are ranked on a list based on the card-holders out-of-work date. See the following:

**A Card**—Bona fide Alaska residents who have been employed by an employer with a construction agreement with Local 959 for at least 600 hours.

**B Card**—Bona fide Alaska residents who have been employed by an employer with a construction agreement with Local 959 for 80-599 hours.

**C Card**—Bona fide Alaska residents who have worked less than 80 hours for an employer with a construction agreement with Local 959.

**D Card**—Individuals who are not bona fide Alaska residents who have worked 80 hours or more for an employer with a construction agreement with Local 959.

**E Card**—Individuals who are not bona fide Alaska residents who have worked less than 80 hours for an employer with a construction agreement with Local 959.



### REMINDER—JOB CALL TIMES:

**Fairbanks Hall 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. • Anchorage Hall 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.**

Scan our QR Code and go straight to our Job Board!  
Subscribe by entering your email address and get notified  
when good union job opportunities are available.

Check out the work our union has to offer and find your  
next career at [WWW.AKTEAMSTERS.COM/JOB-BOARD](http://WWW.AKTEAMSTERS.COM/JOB-BOARD)



Sierra Dublin  
University Redi-Mix,  
Training Trust Graduate

### ***REDI-MIX RECRUITMENT***

Help us build the Golden Heart of Alaska! We are continually recruiting drivers, year-round, to work for Redi-Mix in Fairbanks. Most drivers can make over \$10k per month (depending on workload). Seasons usually last from late April until the snow starts falling. Concrete mixer truck experience is not required, and training opportunities are available through the Teamster Training Trust as well as on-the-job training.

**Call our offices today to secure a position for spring.**

**(907) 751-8500**



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## UPS NEGOTIATIONS START IN 2023!

**Make your ideas known!**

**Be a part of positive change!**

**Fill out the survey today!**



**Teamsters at UPS are standing united in solidarity for a Strong Contract that puts people before packages. Please Scan the QR code and complete the survey.**

*Scan for Survey*







**Teamsters Local 959**  
**State of Alaska**  
*Affiliated with the International*  
*Brotherhood of Teamsters*  
**520 E. 34th Avenue, Suite 102**  
**Anchorage, AK 99503-4116**

NON-PROFIT ORG

U.S. Postage Paid

Anchorage, AK

Permit No. 957

To keep your record current, please remember to inform the Dues Department of any changes to your information, such as an address, phone numbers, e-mail address, and/or beneficiary information.

This will ensure that you receive union correspondence.

The Dues Department contact number is:  
(907) 751-8521

Updates may be emailed to:  
[959dues@akteamsters.com](mailto:959dues@akteamsters.com)

**Executive Officers:**

**Gary Dixon**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Jace Digel**  
Recording Secretary

**Eileen Whitmer**  
President

**Yolandous Williams**  
Vice President

**Trustees**  
Norman Blair  
Derek Musto  
Kirk Johnson



**Teamsters Local 959 • State of Alaska**

(ISSN 0194-6676) Official Publication

Teamsters Local 959

520 E. 34th Ave., Anchorage, AK 99503-4116

Editorial Offices: (907) 751-8542

Postmaster: Send address changes to  
Teamsters Local 959

520 E. 34th Ave., Suite 102  
Anchorage, AK 99503-4116

Periodicals mail postage paid  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502-9998

**December 2022**