

Alaska TEAMSTERS



Local 959 Newsletter

June 2022

A Message from Gary Dixon, Secretary-Treasurer

Solidarity

We hear this word from time to time. It means unity or agreement of feeling or action, especially among individuals with a common interest, and mutual support within a group. Such is the case for Local 959 members working for AT&T in Alaska. Our members are in a fight for better working conditions, better pay, and better benefits. AT&T, one of the largest corporate conglomerates in the United States, is playing games at the negotiation table with over 175 of our members.

Throughout the negotiations process and the lack of movement on the company's side, Local 959's negotiations committee, members, and 959 staff have come together to support these hard-working Alaska members.

We reached out to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and our Joint Council No. 28 President, Rick Hicks, for support in our fight with AT&T. We targeted AT&T-sponsored sporting events to educate the fans about the events of AT&T's bad practices.

At the recently played AT&T Byron Nelson PGA Golf Tournament in Texas, Teamsters Local 745 members from Dallas, Texas, distributed leaflets and hand-fans during the tournament detailing AT&T's behavior toward Local 959 members in Alaska. Local 745 Teamsters held banners telling AT&T to "Stop the Price Hikes and Worker Abuse." A plane with a banner flew above the PGA competition sharing the same message on both weekend days of the tournament. Most recently, Teamsters Local 25 in Boston Mass., handed out leaflets and held banners during the Celtics @ Miami Heat NBA playoff game at the Boston Garden with the same message.

Recently elected International Brotherhood of Teamsters General President, Sean M. O'Brien sent this message to all Teamsters Local Unions:

"The Teamsters do not let corporate America bully our hardworking members. I want to commend Local 959 members for fighting for what they're worth, and Local 745 members for standing in solidarity with their brothers and sisters in Alaska...From Boston to Alaska, Teamsters will always fight back wherever a multi-billion-dollar corporation tries to exploit working people," said Sean M. O'Brien, Teamsters General President. "Local 959 members are demanding what they're worth. I'm proud of them, and of my hometown Local 25 members for showing solidarity with their brothers and sisters in Alaska...This is what our union is all about – if you come after any one of our members, you're coming after all of us."

Solidarity

~ Gary Dixon



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TEAMSTER INSPIRATION

TEAMSTERS



EVERYDAY HEROES

TEAMSTERS



It's safe to argue that we all have an inner hero and when called to action, that inner hero can do great good for others. Heroism is an emotional state, a position of the heart. Heroes are more compassionate and empathic, and they prefer to help those in need despite the danger of personal harm, and they do so without expecting anything in return. Everyday heroes are out there. They are within our communities living normal lives and they are your family, your friends, and your neighbors. In the following stories, they are our Teamster Sisters & Brothers.

TEAMSTER VIGOR This past April, while replacing lighting at the main gate guard shack, A&T Alaska electricians—Teamster Brothers Royce Holmes and Craig Reda, heard a faint shout from East Bluff Drive. They continued down the street and discovered that a worker had been crushed and trapped by the rolling gate component of an 8-foot Port Authority barrier. This individual was hurt and required immediate aid.



Brothers Royce and Craig lifted the approximately 800-pound fence gate part off the man, and Craig dialed 911 for medical assistance. The worker was bleeding and went in and out of consciousness. The two stayed with him, calmed him, and reassured him that help was on the way. Emergency services arrived as did port authorities and the man was taken to the hospital. Port authorities gathered evidence to investigate the accident.

During the day, this is hardly a busy street. Without Royce and Craig's prompt efforts, the port employee might have been trapped under the fence for hours, if not worse. The injured man was able to return home and recover about a week later. Brothers Royce and Craig probably saved his life. Thank you for your excellent hearing as well as for hurrying to the site to help. Another example of Teamsters' outstanding service to Alaska.

TEAMSTER COMPASSION Anchorage Public Transit drivers provide essential services to some of the most vulnerable people within our community. Seeing people in sensitive situations over and over, day after day can desensitize some to human suffering. But thankfully, Public Transit bus drivers, Teamster Sisters Tamara Thompson and Bobbi Drake show kindness and compassion to the people around them.

Woman in Distress—On April 22, 2022, Sister Tamara was driving a city bus for route 25 outbound. When she made a route stop at C Street and 31st Avenue, a man assisted a woman onto the bus and then walked away. This woman had an oxygen tank, though she was not wearing the air hose. She was unstable as if she might fall. This being a safety concern, Sister Tamara asked the woman to take a seat and not bother with paying the bus fare at that time. Throughout her route, she continued to check the rearview mirror to see if the woman was ok. At one point, she noticed her slumped forward in her seat so at the next stop she went back and talked with the woman to see if she needed medical attention. The woman barely spoke, whispering that she was fine. Continuing her route and soon arriving at the VA Medical Center, Sister Tamara again checked on the woman who now whispered she was very tired.



At this moment, Sister Tamara contacted the People Mover Dispatcher and explained the situation. Medical was notified and while awaiting their arrival, the woman's breathing became heavier. Sister Tamara comforted her, letting her know help was on the way and that she was not alone. Once Medical arrived, it was determined the woman's oxygen was dangerously low and, without intervention, would have died. People Mover Operations Supervisor Chris Poe also arrived to check the status of the woman in distress. The woman was able to thank Sister Tamara for being there for her. Sister Tamara believes the effort from all parties involved helped save this woman's life.

Unresponsive Man—While recently on her route, Sister Bobbi Drake turned off Northern Lights onto Minnesota and noticed a man slumped over in the bus stop shelter, bleeding severely. His hands were covered with blood, and he had a steady drip of blood running onto the ground and his shoes. Sister Bobbi approached the man, asking him his name and if he could tell her where the bleeding was coming from. At first, he was unresponsive. But acting quickly, getting towels from her overhead compartment, Sister Bobbi was able to get him to use the towels to apply pressure to the bleeding area(s). She then got on the radio and called for paramedics. She also explained to Public Transit Dispatch that she would stay with the man until paramedics arrived. When help came to assess the man, Sister Bobbi answered their questions and then continued her route.

Tamara and Bobbi are very humble and don't feel they did anything special, but that is often how compassionate, caring people view their extraordinary actions. For these Teamster Sisters, it may have felt like just another day driving the bus, though they are exceptional people and are worthy of recognition 🌟

TEAMSTER AWARDS



Teamsters Local 959 recognizes the hard work and dedication of our Shop Stewards. Beginning in 2017, we began to formally recognize our Union Shop Steward leaders by creating an annual award:

~The Larry K. West Award for Shop Steward of the Year~

Our Annual Shop Steward Award is dedicated to the late Mr. Larry K. West who exemplified the true meaning of Stewardship.

Local 959 congratulates Sister Tammy Maggard on being named Shop Steward of the Year for 2022. She is the Award's fifth recipient, and she is well-deserved.

Tammy began her Teamster career working for Local 959 under Jesse L. Carr from 1975 to 1980 before taking a break to raise her children. After returning to the workforce, she took a dispatch in 1983 with K&L Distributors. She has now been with TOTE Maritime for over 24 years and has been a shop steward for 20+ years representing the members and participating in the negotiation process. Tammy is known for keeping everyone accountable, even her assigned business representatives. Without stewards like Tammy Maggard, Teamsters Local 959 cannot be successful. Stewards have a thankless job sometimes, but people like Tammy embrace the role and make the sacrifice for their co-workers to ensure their collective bargaining agreement is upheld.

Sister Tammy will receive an engraved Teamsters watch and her name will be added to the Shop Steward of the Year plaque displayed in both Anchorage and Fairbanks. Teamsters Local 959 thanks you for being a pillar in the Teamsters Shop Steward community and for your years of diligent service.



Tammy Maggard, Shop Steward
TOTE Maritime Alaska

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A SHOP STEWARD?

Shop Stewards play a vital role in the representation of our members. A successful Shop Steward must possess several traits, including leadership abilities, good communication skills, and the ability to put aside their own opinions to professionally and objectively represent all Teamsters Local 959 represented members.

What is a Shop Steward?

A Bargaining Unit's Shop Steward is the go-to Union Representative on the job site. They have several responsibilities from contract enforcement & assisting in grievance procedures, to keeping members informed & motivated about their Union. A Shop Steward:

- ♦ is familiar with your contract and can answer general questions;
- ♦ assists new employees in joining the Union and are knowledgeable about the benefits of being a member;
- ♦ is familiar with the grievance procedure and can direct you through the proper steps;
- ♦ is available to help you identify violations of the contract and can assist you in referencing sections of the contract;
- ♦ acts as a liaison between employees and the Union;
- ♦ understands problems and challenges facing your department/company and relays information to the Union;
- ♦ participates in contract negotiations;
- ♦ attends Union meetings and stays current and up to date on Union-wide updates & labor issues.

If you are interested in being a Shop Steward or would like to recommend someone for the role, please reach out to your Business Representative.

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

UPDATES—ANCHORAGE OFFICE

~Matt McCarty, Business Representative~

Construction is in full swing! With an early jump on cement mixer positions at AGGPRO & AS&G, all positions are now filled. **AGGPRO** should also have two more spots open as they expect the arrival of two brand new trucks, investing in their fleet—Great news for Teamsters! Negotiations with AGGPRO Anchorage as well as AGGPRO Juneau are expected to ratify by the beginning of June.

QAP will be on the job at Point McKenzie, putting 14 Teamsters to work for a 24-7 week.

I want to give a special thank you to construction industry Brothers Pete Piilani, Mike Gooman, & Tracy Greene. They joined in recent AT&T rallies, standing united with their fellow Teamster members to show solidarity and strength during AT&T Alaska negotiations.

I would also like to recognize new young blood, Manning Bautista-Lescas, who joined Local 959 taking his first union dispatch with AGGPRO Anchorage. Even before his first day on the job, he too joined in the AT&T rallies. New, engaged members like Manning give hope to the future of our Union.

~Yolandous Williams, Business Representative~

UPS We awarded 15 new full-time positions on May 5, 2022. In July of 2021, we awarded 40 new full-time positions. Our Anchorage Gateway continues to grow, and we are looking for new part-timers to fill those open positions.

MV Transport Post COVID business is picking up at a fast pace. We are looking for new drivers to help assist with the workload. Drivers were able to bid on their new routes this past April.

Republic Parking One new driver was hired in April 2022 and our work at the Airport is going very well.

I'd like to express my gratitude to all of our members who strive to be professional in their work every day.

~Thor Brown, Business Representative~

Earlier this year Political Coordinator Patrick Fitzgerald, Business Representative Derek Musto, and I traveled to Juneau to participate in the AFL-CIO Legislative Fly-In with the other trades. We spent 3 days meeting with legislators advocating for the Port of Alaska maintenance project. We have been working with the principal carriers at the port trying to get money allocated for the much-needed work on the pier. This work will continue well into the future, and we appreciate all the support from the AFL-CIO and legislators.

As a trustee for the Teamster Training Trust, I work together with Business Representative James McMilon, Apprenticeship Coordinator Cheri Lipps, and Director John Lovdahl on continuing to develop and expand our apprenticeship training program. New federal regulations mean the days of borrowing your uncle's dump truck and spending an afternoon with an instructor to get your license are a thing of the past. Even our dock-to-driver programs no longer work for acquiring new CDLs.

This past April, Business Representative Dave Nichols, Dispatcher Devin Campbell, and I visited two local high schools to increase our presence among young people looking for employment, taking the time to explain what a union is and the benefits of being a part of organized labor. Too much emphasis has been placed on sending young people to college while never considering the trades, which can have much or more to offer. If you know a young person who is interested in getting a CDL, please have them reach out to me or Cheri at the training trust and ask about the apprenticeship program.

Matson Navigation Negotiations have begun for the Hostlers in both Anchorage and Kodiak.

RNDC Negotiations have concluded, and the bargaining unit ratified their new contract with RNDC (the new owner of the Budweiser distributor). While you are out this summer, remember, Teamsters are the warehouse workers & delivery drivers for a lot of local Alaska brews. *We deliver the beer to the Last Frontier.*

UPDATES—FAIRBANKS OFFICE

~Jarrod Tamez, Business Representative~

We are in a full sprint staffing our Redi-Mix contracts and look forward to holding ratification votes for H.C., Fairbanks Sand & Gravel, & University Redi-Mix.

Negotiations with RNDC Shared Services have concluded. We have a strong, solid group of Teamsters at RNDC and our negotiation committee did a great job to seal the deal. I'd like to tip my cap to our shop steward out there, Justin Lavatai. He's been the glue that holds the bargaining unit together for a long time. Thank you, Justin!

Sourdough Fuel Negotiations are in full swing. This group's negotiation committee is more passionate than any group I've seen go to the table, and rightfully so. Our shop steward at Sourdough, Brian Pitcher has been instrumental in helping me grasp the complexities of this particular contract. He's a bulldog who has the respect of the bargaining unit and the full attention of management. A model Teamster if I've ever seen one. Keep it up, Brian!

UPS is my largest single contract and our shop stewards, Ryan Barile & Tony Higbee, have been doing the heavy lifting while I come up to speed as quickly as I can. Thank you, gentlemen!

Simply put, big things are happening this summer and there is a lot to be excited about. I look forward to visiting my bargaining units and continuing to get to know all of you. Please, do not hesitate to call, text, email, drop by the office, or send carrier pigeons if you need something from me.

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (CONT.)

UPDATES—HOMER OFFICE

~LyDette Kieffer, Business Representative~

SOUTH PENINSULA HOSPITAL Short-staffing has been an issue but we are navigating our way through the challenge with creative ways to meet the need. Long time shop steward, Claire Almond has retired from SPH after almost 15 years.

AMEA/PROVIDENCE KODIAK ISLAND MEDICAL CENTER A new contract was completed this past March with solid language agreed upon regarding low census and payroll.

UPDATES—KENAI OFFICE

~Norm Blair, Business Representative~

I want to express my gratitude and say THANK YOU to all our shop stewards. The role has its rewards and frustrations, yet you continue to shine every day. I appreciate and am grateful for their knowledge and understanding of the contract, commitment and dedication to the members, and assistance with our needs. Shop stewards have various responsibilities, and most go above and beyond to help their brothers and sisters.

My bargaining unit shop stewards are Jim Crane, Bruce Beehler, Ben Watkins, and Sean Costello from Choctaw Defense Services; Mike Petrovich, Jamie McDermott, and Roy Chavarria from UPS; Victor Voit from Catholic Community Service; Sid Pruitt and Mike Herter from Matson Navigation – Kodiak; Mike Tadic from Pacific & Arctic Railway & Navigation; John Tronrud from Southeast Stevedoring; James Epling from Lynden Transport – Kenai; and Mitchel Halverson from Weaver Bros. – Kenai.



Brother Pete Piilani, QAP



ASD Bus Drivers



AT&T Juneau

**PROUD
to be
UNION**



Choctaw Defense Services,
Kodiak



Dante Vallada Cuaresma
July 18, 1970—April 30, 2022



Durham School Services



Sister Cheryl Studie,
Matsu First Student



Sister Wyoma Knight,
H.C. Redi-Mix



First Student, Ketchikan



TEAMSTER ACHIEVEMENTS

Teamster Brother Coaches Team to Victory ~Norm Blair, Business Representative~

Some of us know him as Teamster Brother Nick Finley, the UPS driver, but to a select group of young men, he is Coach. Brother Nick is a UPS driver at the Homer station and the head coach for the Ninilchik Wolverines Boys Basketball team. This year, he successfully coached his team to an undefeated season record of 26-0 to bring home the 2A State Basketball Championship title. The hard work and dedication from the players to their coach and the support of their community put the team on the path to success.

Congratulations on bringing home the trophy 🏆



Brother Nick Finley (2nd in from left) & the
Ninilchik Wolverines Boys' Basketball Team

Fasttrack to Brotherhood ~Stevenson Polintan, Business Representative~

Brother Luigi Galura moved to Anchorage from the Philippines in late 2020. He joined Local 959 in early 2021 and immediately took his first dispatch with Safeway as a warehouseman. He is a prime example of how easy it is to take advantage of the career opportunities available through Local 959. Welcome to the Union, Luigi! May life be better, richer, and fuller for you and your family 🙌

Ready for your next career? Join Teamsters Local 959.
Call:
Dues Department at (907) 751-8521



Brother Luigi Galura

Teamsters Shine with Timber Wolf Pride

~Kelsey Taylor, Business Representative~

Cheri Mattson, principal of Tanaina Elementary School in Wasilla, was presented with a custom-made backlit 3D printed timber wolf light built by two dedicated Teamster School Bus Drivers, Brother Spencer Adamson, and Brother Jonathan Kessinger.

To make this endeavor possible, Brothers Adamson & Kessinger contributed their time and supplies. It took them over 100 hours to design, 3D print, wire, solder, and assemble their labor of love. The result was an artistic light representing the elementary school's mascot that can be enjoyed and fondly remembered by the Tanaina Timber Wolves' children, parents, and staff for years to come.

This is a perfect demonstration of how valuable and caring our Teamster School bus drivers are to the community.

THANK YOU!



Brother Spencer Adamson &
Brother Jonathan Kessinger with
Tanaina Elementary Principal, Cheri Mattson

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW EVERY ELECTION THIS POLITICAL SEASON

Between June and November 2022, Alaska will have four elections which will include the offices of the U.S. Senate, U.S. Congress, Governor/Lt. Governor, State Senate, and State House. Listed below is a breakdown and important dates to know for each election.

⇒ SPECIAL ELECTION PRIMARY—JUNE 11, 2022

- Office: U.S. Congress (Special – fills the seat until January 3, 2023)
- Register to vote by May 12, 2022
- Election Date is June 11, 2022
- Ballot Type: Choose one candidate, vote by mail
 - Be sure to sign, date, have a witness sign, then mail back by June 11th!
- Candidates on the ballot: 48
- Candidates advancing to General election: 4
- Top 4 vote recipients will move to the August 2022 election

⇒ SPECIAL ELECTION GENERAL—AUGUST 16, 2022

- Office: U.S. Congress (Special)
- Register to vote by July 17, 2022
- Election Date is August 16, 2022
- Ballot Type: Ranked-Choice
- Candidates on the ballot: 4
- The winner of this election will hold a seat in Congress until January 2023

⇒ REGULAR ELECTION PRIMARY—AUGUST 16, 2022

- Office: U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Governor/Lt. Governor, State Senate, State House
- Register to vote by July 17, 2022
- Election Date is August 16, 2022
- Ballot Type: Choose one Candidate
- Candidates on the Ballot: Multiple for each office
- Candidates advancing to General election: Top 4 each office

⇒ REGULAR ELECTION GENERAL—NOVEMBER 8, 2022

- Office: U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Governor/Lt. Governor, State Senate, State House
- Register to vote on October 9, 2022
- Election Date is November 8, 2022
- Ballot Type: Ranked Choice
- Candidates on the ballot: At most, 4 for each office
- Winners will assume office in January 2023

Are you registered to vote? Do you need to update your voter registration?

Go to:

www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/voterregistration.php

Vote for one option.

- ☐ Joe Smith
- ☒ John Citizen
- ☐ Jane Doe
- ☐ Fred Rubble
- ☐ Mary Hill

Rank your candidates in order of preference.

Mark "1st Choice" for your favorite candidate, "2nd Choice" for your second favorite, and so on. Only fill one bubble per candidate and one bubble per column.

Your vote will go to your top-ranked candidate, and if feasible to eliminate, your vote will automatically transfer to your next ranked candidate who is still in the running. The candidate who wins a majority of the active votes wins.

	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
Deborah Democrat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ronald Republican	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Terry Tea Party	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Priya Progressive	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Larry Libertarian	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gabriela Green	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



REMINDER FOR "A" and "B" CARDHOLDERS

All "A" cardmembers without work dates before July 1, 2022, who have worked less than six hundred (600) hours in the preceding thirty-six (36) months, and "B" cardmembers, who have worked less than eighty (80) hours in the preceding thirty-six (36) months, will be required to re-register their cards during July 2022 to maintain a July 1, 2022, out-of-work date. If re-registration takes place on August 1, 2022, or after, the member will receive the date on which they appear to re-register.



If you are an "A" or "B" cardmember and re-registered on July 1, 2021, and do not have the "A" card (six hundred [600] hours) or a "B" card (eighty [80] hours) aggregate time in the thirty-six (36) months before July 1, 2022, you will be required to re-register your "A" or "B" card during July 2022 to have a July 1, 2022, out-of-work date, or again, you will receive the date in which you appear to re-register.

This re-registration practice will take place every July for "A" and "B" card members who have not worked a total of six hundred (600) hours, or eighty (80) hours respectively, in the preceding thirty-six (36) month period. The ninety (90) day re-registration of cards remains in effect. For additional information, please contact the Anchorage or Fairbanks Dispatch Office: Anchorage (907) 751-8566 (Devin Campbell) / Fairbanks (907) 450-6123 (Kim Brandenburg).

MEMBERS ABOUND



Brothers Peder Nelson, Frank Lee, Michael Holden, Ricky Graves, Josh Olsen, Fred Waltman & sitting is their lead, Bart Rippey, Choctaw Defense Svs, Kodiak

Thank you for the amazing jobs you all do every day! You are blazing trails, leading by example, and are so very important! Our Membership is strong and steady because of every one of you. You are instrumental in our communities as well; volunteering, mentoring, and sharing your hearts! I am deeply appreciative of the membership I am a part of and so proud to be able to call myself your union Sister! You are all an inspiration ♥

~Jenné Kriner, Executive Assistant



On Friday, May 6, 2022, ASD celebrated the 10th Annual School Lunch Hero Day!

School Lunch Hero Day is a chance to showcase the difference school nutrition professionals make for every child who comes through the cafeteria.



School Lunch Hero Day
Ice Cream Sundae Bar,
Anchorage School District



Pre-Negotiation Membership Meeting,
Anchorage School District—Food Service



In Juneau, AT&T Teamsters stand united. Our magnificent state is connected thanks to some of Alaska's highly skilled Union personnel! Brother Kurt Foley, Area Shop Steward, is a shining example of leadership in keeping Teamsters connected and unified in pursuit of a fair contract.



Brother Ioka Tauanuu receives his MOA grievance settlement check from Business Rep. Kelsey Taylor

MEMBERS AROUND (CONT.)



Doyon Aramark Negotiations Committee:
Scott Johnson, Eileen Whitmer, Nancy Johnson,
Sarah Clyce, & Dale Ebben



**Brother Wayne Volkman joins the
UPS Circle of Honor;**
an elite group of UPS drivers who have not had an
avoidable accident for 25 years or more.



**Brother Bob Witt & Brother Ryan
Echols with
United Freight & Transport**



Southeast Stevedoring—Juneau Port



**UPS—Ketchikan,
Service with a smile ☺**



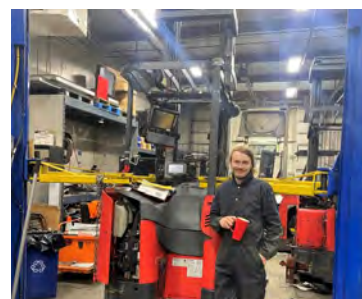
**Brother Chester Ramos,
AlSCO—Anchorage**



**Brother Mikey Leatherman,
AGGRO—Anchorage**



**Sister Kathy Feters &
Sister Debbie Mullin,
First Student—Wasilla**



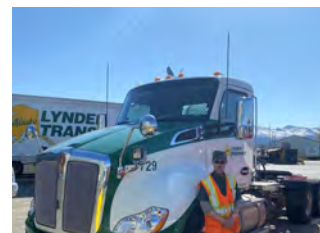
**Brother Augustus Gunderson,
Safeway Shop Mechanic**



**Durham School
Services**



**Safeway Negotiations Committee
with ST Gary Dixon**



**Brother Howard Dyer,
Lynden Transport, Inc.**

LOCAL 959 EVENTS



Brother Patrick FitzGerald & Sister Ann Williams Donate Life!!!

JC No. 28's Executive Board Gains New Trustee



Joint Council No. 28 is made up of Washington, Alaska, and Northern Idaho Teamster Locals.

Through organizing, education, and political action they expand the rights, wages, and benefits of working families. Moving forward, united as one.

Secretary-Treasurer, Gary Dixon accepts the nomination and is voted in as Trustee of Joint Council No. 28's Executive Board.



Brother Rob Tarkington—UPS, behind the scenes of our upcoming Orientation Video



Business Rep. Jarrod Tamez, Lead Dispatcher Kim Brandenburg, & Business Rep. Jeremy Holan never miss an opportunity to participate in "Same-Shirt-Day" at The Fairbanks Office ☺



Local 959 showing our support of Local 174 while they were on strike in Seattle

Local 959 is currently working on a new member orientation video. From the opportunities of different work available through 959's Dispatch Hall to becoming a part of our Legacy in Alaska, and seeing the rewards of union membership, this video will be a great tool to help new members gain an understanding of who Teamsters are and what we do all over our great state.



Lead Dispatcher, Kim Brandenburg participates in the Relay for Life—Fairbanks

"As more and more of my family members, friends, and Local 959 Brothers and Sisters have been stricken with this devastating disease, I have now chosen to help support, save lives, and fight cancer. I am 'relaying for life' in honor of loved ones, survivors, and anyone else who needs support during their journey." said Kim.

Bus. Reps James McMilon & Jarrod Tamez, President Eileen Whitmer, & Dues Assistant Megan Barker all joined her in the relay ♥



📅 July 15, 2022, Jesse L. Carr Charity Golf Tournament
Anchorage Golf Course, 7 am – 2 pm

📅 August 11, 2022, Anchorage Membership Appreciation BBQ
Location & Time TBD

Save the Date

TEAMSTERS CONNECTED



~Patrick FitzGerald, Political Coordinator~

Teamsters Local 959 and AT&T/Alascom began negotiating in January 2022. The negotiation process has been slow as the corporate team representing AT&T refuses to discuss the bargaining unit's paramount issues. On March 2, 2022, their contract expired leaving the future of AT&T Teamsters uncertain. As the bargaining process continues, Local 959 Business Representative David Nichols keeps the AT&T members encouraged, organizing & participating in rallies of solidarity to bring the union's power and the strength of Alaskan workers to the attention of the AT&T corporate bargaining group, which has all traveled to Alaska from out of state. These rallies have brought together more than just our AT&T Teamsters, but also Teamster brothers & sisters from other bargaining units, as well as union members from the UFCW, ASEA/AFSCME, Laborers, Letter Carriers, and the Painters & Allied Trades—true acts of SOLIDARITY!

To keep our AT&T members informed, a new website page was created: **TEAMSTERS CONNECTED!** This new page is dedicated to resolving the contract dispute between AT&T and Alaskan workers. It will serve as an information hub for all media posts, the ongoing negotiations, legislative support, member statements, and more. It is a notification center for those who want to work in solidarity to make sure Alaskan Teamsters receive the contract they deserve.

TEAMSTERS CONNECTED 🖐️

Please visit

www.akteamsters.com/teamstersconnected

Telecommunications Giant Wants to Hike Health Care Costs and Offer Crumbs to Members of Teamsters Local 959

With very difficult negotiations with AT&T, Teamsters Locals 745 (Texas) and 25 (Boston) show their support and solidarity with Local 959 in fighting for better conditions for our members in Alaska. Members of Teamsters Local 745 educated attendees of the Byron Nelson PGA Tournament by distributing leaflets and hand fans during the tournament detailing AT&T's behavior toward its employees in Alaska who are members of Teamsters Local 959. Members of Local 25 educated fans attending the Boston Celtics-Miami Heat NBA Eastern Conference Finals distributing leaflets that described AT&T's behavior toward its employees in Alaska. AT&T is the primary sponsor of both the PGA tournament and the NBA playoff series.

To Local 745's & Local 25's Membership & Leadership, we cannot thank you enough for the outpouring of support, the dedication of your time, and the solidarity you have shown us. The amount of support from all of the members, IBT General President, Sean O'Brien, and JC No. 28 President, Rick Hicks, truly proves what our union is about. When Teamsters get the call, they show up!

We send you all a HUGE THANK YOU!!! In Solidarity, Secretary-Treasurer, Gary Dixon



NEWS FROM THE HALL

👉 👉 👉 **Welcome Aboard** 👉 👉 👉



Dues Account Representative & Administrative Assistant, Heather Culp was born in Florida and raised all over the east coast and overseas in Spain because her dad was in the military. She moved to Alaska in 1998 with her then-husband who was also in the military. Heather's main background training is in Customer Service, Guest Services, and Hotel Management. She can also work on cars or change out a boiler system when needed. Before accepting her current position with Local 959, Heather was working with a local heating company as a boiler tech. She enjoys spending time with her son and friends, camping, fishing, hiking, cooking, crafts, and learning new things. When you come into the Fairbanks office you will never find Heather without a cheerful smile.

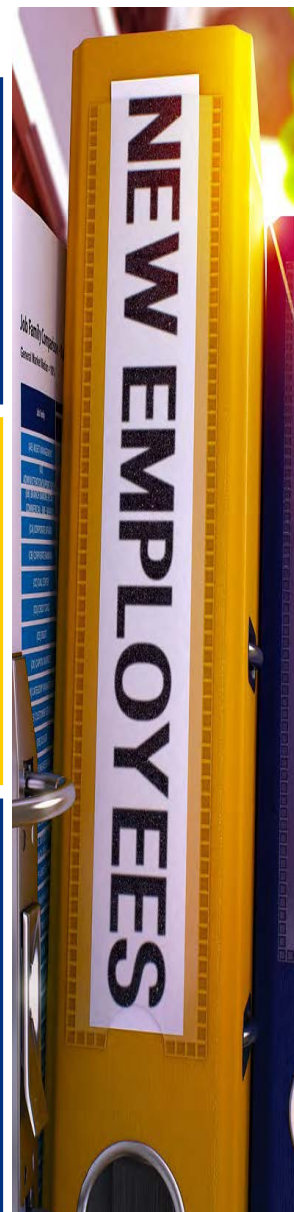
Business Representative, Jarrod Tamez is a first-generation Alaskan, born and raised in Fairbanks by Texas transplants. He served four years on active duty in the Air Force as a Combat Communications Satcom/Radio Systems Technician before joining Teamsters Local 959 as an Operations and Maintenance Tech for ASRC/ N.O.A.A., at the Fairbanks Command Data Acquisition Station (FCDAS) in 2016. During his time at FCDAS, he used his G.I. bill to complete a B.S. in Business Management from Western Governors University and was nominated by his peers to serve as one of three shop stewards in 2017. Spare time and work/ life balance were hard to come by until accepting his current role of Business Representative with Local 959 in early 2022, but he spends his time off playing hockey, wandering through nature, playing guitar poorly, lifting weights, and is on a lifelong quest to find the best peach cobbler in the world.

Dues Account Representative & Administrative Assistant, Jacque Roby has lived all over Alaska for 50 years. Her parents bought land in the Valley in 1976 and turned it into a self-sufficient farm with vegetables & animals. Learning to tan hides, garden, & take care of farm animals taught her to work hard & love nature. She and her family also raised & raced sled dogs given to them by the Redingtons.



Jacque attended the University of Alaska Mat-Su where she received her EMT certification. She worked as an EMT & a bartender while raising three beautiful girls. She now has 13 grandchildren. She also worked at the Carpenter Union Hall for 8 years as the Office Manager. With the experience gained there, she went on to work for two large construction companies for 8 years as their Safety Administrator & Human Resource Manager.

Jacque has traveled all over the world. Her favorite places are Scotland & Ireland. She enjoys paddle boarding, lake rowing, growing flowers, being with friends next to a fire, and playing & listening to music. Her favorite motto is to keep moving forward and keep smiling.



Celebrating 38 Years

Jesse L. Carr Charity Golf Tournament

**Mark your calendars for the 38th Annual
Jesse L. Carr Charity Golf Tournament**

The Jesse L. Carr Charity Golf Tournament provides much-needed help to many Alaskan Charities all across the state with sponsorships from our corporate partners and members like you ♥

We sincerely look forward to celebrating 38 years of this wonderful event and thank you in advance for your continued support and participation.

This year's JLC Golf Tournament is set for Friday, July 15, 2022, at the Anchorage Golf Course. We look forward to seeing you at the 7 AM shotgun start 🏌️

For assistance with sponsorships, signing up to play, or if you have any questions please contact the JLC Tournament Coordinator, Jennē Kriner, at (907) 751-8542 or by email at jkriner@akteamsters.com.



TEAMSTERS HEALTH & WELFARE AND PENSION FUNDS

HEALTH AND WELFARE NEWS

Preventive Health Care Services

Many people fail to stay up to date with their preventive services such as mammograms, colorectal cancer screening, annual preventive exams, cervical cancer screening, and routine lab work. A missed opportunity by not staying on top of preventive care is the early detection of precancerous cells, prediabetes, and cardiovascular diseases, just to name a few.

Under the Health Care Reform Law also known as the Affordable Care Act ("ACA") preventive services under a group health plan could not be held to annual maximum coverage and as such preventive services are paid at one hundred percent (100%) of Usual, Customary and Reasonable ("UCR") charges and not subject to deductibles or a copayment under the Alaska Teamster-Employer Welfare Trust.

For more information on preventive services, refer to Section 5.13 *Preventive Health Care* in the Alaska Teamster-Employer Welfare Trust's Summary Plan Description ("SPD").



In-person Health Fairs are returning!

The Pacific Healthcare Coalition ("PHC") is on track to hold in-person Health Fairs this Fall!! Information on dates and registration will be forthcoming to eligible members. Stay tuned...and remember, labs and vaccinations are **paid at one hundred percent (100%)** for eligible members and their eligible dependents by the Alaska Teamster-Employer Welfare Trust.



Coalition Health Center

The Coalition Health Centers in Anchorage and Fairbanks have expanded their walk-in hours to Monday thru Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Members needing a DOT physical can visit the Coalition Health Center during walk-in times too!

BridgeHealth is now Transcarent

BridgeHealth is now known as Transcarent Surgery Care. However, the planned surgery program isn't changing. Eligible members and their eligible dependents will pay \$0 (zero) deductibles and pay \$0 (zero) coinsurance when using the planned surgery program. That means it's **paid at one hundred percent (100%)** by the Alaska Teamster-Employer Welfare Trust.

The most common covered procedures are Cardiac, General Surgery, Orthopedic, Spine, and Women's Health surgeries.

If you're considering surgery and want access to top-rated facilities and surgeons, contact Transcarent Surgery Care at (844) 249-8108.

And don't forget—airfare, lodging, and meal allowance are paid for by the Alaska Teamster-Employer Welfare Trust for the patient and a companion.



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

**You may call us at 907-751-9700 during regular
business office hours or email us
at benefits@959trusts.com for assistance.**

**BridgeHealth
SurgeryCare**

A TRANSCARENT HEALTH & CARE EXPERIENCE

Pension News

IMPORTANT NOTICES TO RETIREES!

It is necessary to verify retirees and beneficiaries are receiving their monthly benefits. As such the Alaska Teamster-Employer Pension Trust will mail a form annually to each retiree and beneficiary to certify receipt of retirement benefits. Failure to return this certification will result in a suspension of your monthly benefit until the certification is returned to the Trust office. **The next certification will be mailed to retirees and beneficiaries before January 2023.**



DO YOU HAVE A BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION ON FILE?

If you are unmarried and not retired, please call the Trust office at (907) 751-9700 to request a Pension Beneficiary Designation Form or go online at www.959trusts.com and complete a Beneficiary Designation Form and return it to the Trust office.

IN MEMORY ♥ DECEASED BROTHERS & SISTERS

DECEMBER 2021 & PRIOR—Not previously listed

Farris Deary	Martin Marietta Operation
Ronald Hilton	Red Samm Construction, Inc.
Ernest Munguia	Safeway
Elmer Gentry	Municipality of Anchorage
John Modene	Miller Construction
Richard Kinney	Alascom, Inc.
Jay Hole	Anchorage Cold Storage
Rusty E French	Anchorage School District
Dean Swanson	GE Operations Support
Finau Malupo	United Parcel Service, Inc.
Michael Wright	ASRC ES - Houston Contracting
Debra Morgan	Paratransit Services
Mike Clegg	Central Construction Co.
David Simmons	Aggpro
Robert Gish	Sourdough Fuel Services
Donald Hymes	ASRC ES - Houston Contracting
Jimmy Hyde	Matanuska Maid, Inc.
Joyce Lovdahl	Alascom, Inc.
James Garrett	H.C. Price Co.
Lee Manfred	Interstate Brands
Lance Myers	AIC LLC
Charles Deveney	Anchorage Sand & Gravel
Vernon Strauser	Exclusive Paving
Elwyn Holloway	Paving Products, Inc.
Dennis Larson	Matanuska Maid, Inc.
Allan Renfro	GE Operations Support
Jimmie D Snyder	H&S Warehouse
Clarence Souza	Mammoth of Alaska
Robert Marzak	Sealand Freight Service
Leslie Ross	Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc.
Eugene Manuel	Arctec Services

JANUARY 2022

Richard Secrist	Red Samm Construction
Ronald Reid	Martin Marietta Operation
John Bacot	Boysen Investment
Lee Usie	Spenard Builders
Diane Dawson	Anchorage School District
John Rutt	Bendix Field Engineer Corp
Mary Turner	Wein Air
Lyle Sharp	H.C. Price Co.
Jerald Johnson	Interstate Brands
Evan Earthfield	Kaps Transport
Carl Bonomo	ITT Federal Services
Larry Sinyon	Merrick Management
Denny Ingraham	Ahtna Construction
Judy Gibeau	Lynden Transport, Inc.

Claudette Mangum
Janet Graham
Craig Campbell
William Saxton
Kevin Ray
Frank Dolgner
Charles Balog
Richard Digel

FEBRUARY 2022

Sue Holman
Carol Pitts
Steve Stefan
Brian Kelley
Joseph Goodrich
Gene Hughes
Raymond Neeley
Donald Higgins
Helaine Michaels
Buford Delaughter
Vivian Prewitt
Gary Cunningham
Gearl Nelson
Paul Barkshire
L. Kay Stofer

MARCH 2022

Patricia Stewart
Robert Raffauf
Gerald Phillips
Joan Tritt
Roger Walker
Otto Kogele
Louis Orr
Clifford Green

APRIL 2022

Carol Shaffer
George Lowry
Beryl Eiland
Harry Stober
Edward Koslovich
Robert Bailey
Theodore Nielsen
Richard Williams
Travis Guhrt
Shirley Peters
George Hartman

Alascom, Inc.
Anchorage School District
Norcon, Inc.
Aurora Trucking
Nanuq, Inc.
Fairbanks Lumber Supply
Wien Air
AILU #1, Longshore

United Parcel Service, Inc.
Anchorage Sand & Gravel
Wilder Construction
Alaska Industrial
Nanuq, Inc.
Alascom, Inc.
Kiewit Infrastructure
Longshore
Kodiak Oil Field Haulers
CSX Lines of Alaska
AILU #1, Longshore
ITT Federal Services
Interstate Brands
Sealand Freight Service
Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc.

AILU #1, Longshore
Alascom, Inc.
Alascom, Inc.
ITT Federal Services
United Freight & Transport
Eastwind
Arctec Services
CSX Lines Of Alaska

AT&T Alaska
Sohio Construction
Matanuska Maid, Inc.
Arctec Alaska
K&L Distributors
Interstate Brands
Arctec Alaska
Martin Marietta Operation
Matson Navigation Company
The Alaska Hospital
Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc.



Dante Vallada Cuaresma

July 18, 1970—April 30, 2022

There are some who bring a light so bright to the world that even after they have gone, the light remains.



CELEBRATING MILESTONES

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

DECEMBER 2021

Christopher Frye	10
Mary Olson	10
Wyoma Knight	10
Daniel Timm	10
Alex Bryant	10
Victoria Shautt	10
Jeffrey Olde	10
Keith Westphal	15
Mirapia Kuznetsov	15
Gilbert Salvador	25
John Lovdahl	25
Michael Smart	30

JANUARY 2022

Timothy Conover	10
Mark Powell	10
Michael Kriger	10
Nilda Battad	15
Lawrence Paquette	15
Philip Fonteyn	15
James Bolduc	20
Ola Mullikin	20
Joseph Balogh III	20
Lawrence Baker	20
Jeffrey Krusell	30
Matt Rustin	30
Carole Roesler	40
Davis Crittenden	40
Steven Silba	50

FEBRUARY 2022

James Holt	10
Robert Johnson	10
Ruby Frazier	10
Arlene Nelson-Frelax	15
Delfin Labrador	15
John Veit III	20
William Theuer	20

George Owen	20
Randy Smith	30

MARCH 2022

Luis Sosa	10
Bryan Birmingham	10
Michael O'Rourke	10
Mark Carroll	15
David Nichols	15
Rudy Rayos	15
Larry Wells	15
Tammy Gamble	15
Ronald Steptoe	15
Kevin Hansen	15
Vanessa Albertson	15
William Bidwell	15
Bob Witt	20
Sean McGuire	20
Joel Hembach	20
Dorothy Harris	20
James Boatright	20
Rick Newman	40
Wayne Lachappelle	40
Brian Solem	40

Dennis Scanlan	50
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APRIL 2022

Clyde Buwalda	10
Ana Theresa Jones	10
Peter Piilani	15
John Karoly	15
Robert Dutton	15
Yolanda Alcaide	15
Trent Grammont	15
Stephen Wright	15
Michael Zaleppa	15
Michael Slagle	15
Tony Yun	20
Daniel Myers	20
James Foderaro	25
David Angus	25
Gerardo Rodriguez	25
Robert Burgan	25
Mike Farnsworth	25
Faifua Pulini	30
Gary Mingo	35
Harry Sewell	50

CELEBRATING RETIREES

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

AUGUST 2021

William Blake	AT&T Alaska
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SEPTEMBER 2021

Larry G Kincaid	Big Dream Transport
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OCTOBER 2021

Joseph M Seebacher	Doyon/Aramark Denali
Mark D. Smith	Brice Inc.
Monty L. Harding	World Technical Services, Inc
Emil P. Sumera	Trusted Hand Services
Michael Rivers	United Parcel Service Inc
Gregg Van Horn	ASRC ES - Houston Contracting

NOVEMBER 2021

Monty Burbank	Usibelli Coal Mine Inc
Darren G Hill	United Parcel Service Inc
Michael Grigsby	Arctic Slope Telephone Assoc.
Keith C McIntyre	Weaver Bros Inc
Laurel R. Beaulieu	Arctec Alaska
Dale Bloker	Safeway
Larry Hood	AT&T

DECEMBER 2021

Kevin J. Ferko	United Freight & Transport
Timothy Ohler	Doyles Fuel Service
Harold D Cox	QAP
Kevin P Heatherly	Arctec Alaska
Kevin F. Cox	Norcon Inc
Ronald Hack	Arctic Slope Technical Service
Stephen Keller	Sea Star Stevedore
Larry W Sinyon	Merrick Management, Inc

William E Brett
Deborah Tietz
Jeffery Evans
Thomas Hubbard

Longshore
AT&T
Weaver Bros. Inc
Granite Construction

JANUARY 2022

Daniel B Jones	Interstate Brands
Rex D. Smith	Safeway
Donna L. Reed	MQC Enterprises Inc
Gary VanderVeer	Indyne, Inc.
Jeffery Hermanns	Weaver Bros.
Ronda Redick	Longshore
Warren B Davis	Weaver Bros. Inc
Clarence Bullock	Anchorage School District
Jennifer Deitz	Wien Air Alaska
Daniel J Negri	Interstate Brands

FEBRUARY 2022

Debra L Pitzer	Emulsion Products Company
Michael M Cridland	ITT Federal Services Corp
Timothy Irvin	K&L Distributors
Eric R Hansen	Weaver Bros. Inc
Franklin H Panoncillo	Safeway
Randall W Snow	United Freight & Transport

MARCH 2022

John Vanden Bos	ASRC ES - Houston Contracting
Westley Quinlan	AT&T Alaska
Joseph Hobaugh	Weaver Bros Inc.
David Glover	Brice Inc.
Ivan S Tan	United Parcel Service Inc
German E Cooper II	United Parcel Service Inc
Dale Powell	AT&T Alaska





Teamsters Local 959
State of Alaska
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Brotherhood of Teamsters
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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

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Secretary-Treasurer

Jace Digel
Recording Secretary

Eileen Whitmer
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Vice President

Trustees
Norman Blair
Derek Musto
Kirk Johnson



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