

Alaska TEAMSTERS



Local 959 Newsletter

April 2023

A Message from Gary Dixon, Secretary-Treasurer

I would like to recognize some extraordinary and resilient Teamsters, our Wasilla school bus workers. This group had been in negotiations since July of last year, with Durham School Services, and had not come to an agreement. They were fed up with the games the Company was playing in negotiations, and a member meeting was called where a vote to authorize a strike was taken, 98% voted to strike!!! The Company kept playing games and then started a media campaign against Local 959. Between our members and staff, we formed a team to take on this out-of-state employer. The Company gave its last-best-final offer, which was unacceptable to this group, so they went on strike. January 31, 2023, was the first day walking the picket line. Most had never walked on a picket line before, but it didn't matter, they wanted to fight for a better contract and better conditions, not only for themselves but for the children they take to and from school every day.

As I showed up on the first day at the picket line, I was greeted by many of these members and was pleasantly surprised at their togetherness. As I walked and talked with them, I heard some of the same things again and again; most had never walked a picket line, some were new to the Teamsters, and for some, it was their first union job. The discussions were great and even better was their attitude and what they wanted to accomplish. As the weeks rolled by with little progress at the negotiations table, these members were holding the line with determination. Even the cold winds of February in Wasilla couldn't stop these folks. Coffee and pizzas were on the menu most days, and people brought their space heaters and played music. Everyone was wearing their bright fluorescent green Teamster hoodies or hats to stand out as people driving by on the highway were honking in solidarity.

We reached out to all the Teamster Locals on the West Coast and to Alaska unions in general for strike support donations. We got a great response from all. Our union Brothers and Sisters came through for our members with donations.

IBT Western Region Vice President and Joint Council 28 President Rick Hicks came to Anchorage and wanted to go meet these members and let them know that their fight was not going unnoticed. As we left the picket line that day Rick commented to me, "Wow! Those folks are determined." I told him about all my talks with them, about the level of care they have for the children they transport every day, and how very touching it was to hear their common remark, "I treat these kids like they are my own".

On a positive note, our negotiations team led by Jeremy Holan and Kelsey Taylor got the company to return to the negotiations table and they were able to get more money and better language and conditions for the group!!! The membership ratified the agreement by a large margin.

I want to thank the negotiations committee, Tom Fenner, Debbie Mullins, Laura Skluzacek, James Fleshman, and Cheryl Studie, for the time, patience, and hard work they put into these negotiations and their effort to get the final result. Thank you to Patrick Fitzgerald and the entire staff at Local 959 for the support they gave. Thank you to Jeremy Holan for leading the negotiations and to Kelsey Taylor for his endless efforts throughout this process. But most of all I would like to thank the members who work every day to make sure the children of our communities make it back and forth from school safely, every single day.

I couldn't be prouder of a group, than you men and women. You showed that by sticking together, even in the middle of February, you can make a difference in your workplace and make it better. Now let's get some folks ready to run against those school board members that didn't want to raise a finger to help you guys!!!

~ Gary Dixon



In This Edition

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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.



**Robert Tarkington, Shop Steward
United Parcel Service**

SHOP STEWARD OF THE YEAR

by Business Representative, David Nichols

There are many definitions of what a Shop Steward is. Webster's dictionary lends us the explanation, "Shop Steward noun: a union member elected as the union representative of a shop or department in dealings with the management." Some consider Stewards to be simply a Union Rep. that's on the floor. Pending on a Local's bylaws Stewards can be elected, appointed, and in some cases a hybrid of the two, but most importantly they need to be trusted. Trusted by the members that their Steward sees them as real people and will try to understand them. Trusted by management that a Steward is always acting in good faith, with integrity and respect. Trusted by their Union with the day-to-day of what we care most about, our members. One sure thing about Mr. Robert "Rob" Tarkington, he cares.

Born on Molokai Island in Hawaii, Mr. Tarkington graduated from McKinley High School (the same High School Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson graduated from). With his father and cousins being Teamsters, Mr. Tarkington was made aware of the value of not only being in a Union but also being a Teamster. He first came to Alaska to visit his mother and his Teamster stepfather who was working on the slope in the 70s. In 1979, Mr. Tarkington moved to Alaska and soon found himself walking a picket line for the Teamsters in 1980. After working several jobs, Rob eventually would be a Teamster at K&L Distributors in 1986 then, finally, at UPS in 1987.

Mr. Tarkington is a 33+ year Local 959 member at UPS. Rob, again walked on yet another picket line in 1997 and if life lends to poetry he may retire after another picket line experience. Not too many people can say they participated in one of the largest strikes in US history once, let alone twice. Over Rob's career, he has been paving the way for those coming behind him. He's faced discrimination, unfair productivity standards, company harassment, and many other professional challenges, and always left things better than he found them. According to Mr. Tarkington, "Being a real Teamster is about family, brothers, and sisters that stand together and support each other."

For years Rob has been a leader, coach, caretaker, and labor-conscious voice on the shop floor as a member and as a Steward. A Steward is a big brother, someone that tells you what you need to hear not just what you want to hear. A person that helps you when it's inconvenient, difficult, not popular, or troublesome. A person that even when they think you are 100% wrong, has your back, supports you as they educate you, and trusts you to do what is right. If you talk to the members at UPS you will find many consider Rob not only a brother but a "Big Brother." Kind, patient, and humble, but if provoked fierce, and relentless, and if you mess with the members under his care, Rob becomes a force to be reckoned with.

One cannot speak of Mr. Tarkington without an honorable mention of his true master craft and skillset that sets him apart from other mortal men, fishing! In true Alaska fashion Rob is known for always finding time to take his boat out to sea and fill freezers with a copious number of fish. Yes, just when you think Rob couldn't be cooler you realize he is Captain Rob! Who better to be named Shop Steward of the Year other than Captain Steward Big Brother Rob Tarkington!

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 represent all Teamsters Local 959 represented members professionally and objectively.

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.

LOCAL 959 EVENTS

📢~Save the Date~📢

Mark your calendar for our

BIGGEST

Membership Party yet! Bring your family out Saturday, June 10, 2023, from 12 Noon—3 PM, at the west end of the Delaney Park Strip in downtown Anchorage for a Membership Summer BBQ! We'll have bounce houses, music, food by Smokehouse BBQ, a petting zoo, and more!!!
You DO NOT want to miss this one!!!



SAVE THE DATE

Membership Family Summer BBQ

SATURDAY JUNE 10th

12 Noon - 3 PM
Delaney Park Strip,
Downtown Anchorage
10th Avenue & P Street

SAVE THE DATE

Friday July 14th

JESSE L. CARR CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT





Anchorage Golf Course
7 AM Shotgun Start

📢~Save the Date~📢

Join us at the 39th Annual
Jesse L. Carr Charity Golf Tournament,
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 or call (907) 751-8542.

🍷~Save the Date~🍷

The Fairbanks Membership Family Picnic is set for Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at Pioneer Park in the Wilderness Pavilion, from 4 PM - 7 PM.
Come out and enjoy food from Big Daddy's BBQ, watch the kids play, and share an evening with your fellow Teamster Brothers & Sisters.



Fairbanks Membership Family Picnic



Save the Date

Wednesday, August 2nd, 4 PM - 7 PM

📅 Saturday, June 10, 2023, Membership Family Summer BBQ, Delaney Park Strip, Downtown Anchorage, 12 Noon—3 PM

📅 Friday, July 14, 2023, Jesse L. Carr Charity Golf Tournament, Anchorage Golf Course, 7 AM Shotgun Start

📅 Wednesday, August 2, 2023, Fairbanks Membership Family Picnic, Pioneer Park—Wilderness Pavilion, 4 PM—7 PM

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

School Bus Workers Take on Durham School Services

by Kelsey Taylor

TEAMSTER PRIDE

I stood with our fellow MatSu Brothers and Sisters during the school bus worker strike this past February and March. We held the line in the face of blowing wind, snow, below-freezing temperatures, a company unwilling to bend, an unsupportive school district, and WAY too much pizza. No matter how hard it got, standing with my fellow Teamsters rejuvenated and inspired me.

I witnessed amazing community support from parents and families dropping off food and coffee and driving by honking their horns in encouragement. I saw people taking care of each other, quietly donating money to those who needed it to make it through the strike together. Even when a member had an emergency with snow built up on her roof, more people wanted to help than there was available parking in her driveway. When no one else would, our Teamster members fought for their community, the children they transport, and their Union Brothers and Sisters who stood side-by-side on the picket line.

Bus Driver Dennis Little said it best, "You don't get someone doing this job beyond the 5-year mark without hearing them say 'I'm not here for the pay. I'm not here for fame. I'm here because I want to know that the children, I've been bussing every day, are safe.'"



Our school bus workers have worked very hard to make important incremental improvements to safety, working conditions, wages, and benefits. Why? Because higher standards for school bus workers mean higher standards for the children riding the buses. And this strike was about more than wages, more than benefits. It was a fight for our community's children and the safe transportation that parents count on.

TEAMSTERS DON'T GIVE UP

From the start of the school year, Durham was operating without required permits, missing required equipment on buses, and continued an apathetic attitude toward maintenance. Despite repetitive communications to Durham conveying the concerns of our bargaining unit members, individuals, and parents, Durham did not engage. This was known by the school district officials, yet they took no action with their contractor. The only group of individuals holding this company accountable on behalf of our children was our Teamster school bus workers!

"It felt like our community, our kids, and our workers were not important enough to require anyone's attention," said Josh Culbertson a Driver at Durham.

Through months of stagnant negotiations, Durham was incredibly unprofessional, and unwilling to address a myriad of issues including safety which led to numerous Unfair Labor Practices (ULP) filed by the union. To press these issues, our members showed up in force at many school board meetings looking for accountability. While providing important information to local politicians, we planned sit-ins and coordinated testimony from members. We reached out to parents, school staff, school officials, Local 6133, and Local Teacher unions to ensure our message was getting out to the community. And they ALL showed up to support us!

Further, we escalated the pressure and our worker power through concerted protected activities by wearing buttons that said, "I'd rather be working than walking", holding impromptu meetings in the parking lot after clock-out time, having many bargaining unit meetings with well over 125 members in attendance, organizing events to get info to the media, holding practice pickets, and flooding our social media with content. We even worked with Alex Jorgensen, with the Alaska AFL-CIO to produce several school bus workers' testimonials. We were not backing down and growing stronger every day.

We submitted multiple Freedom of Information Act requests to the school district to make important information about the district waiving Durham's multiple fines public knowledge. We also coordinated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters to leverage as many resources as we could lay our hands on. It was an endless effort for us to be seen, to be heard, to stick together and fight!

TEAMSTERS STRIKE

Our Teamster members and their concerns were not being taken seriously by Durham or the school district. And we made that very clear with an overwhelming 98% vote to authorize a strike. Durham immediately discounted us saying, "We (Durham) see 98% all the time." At no point did this company think our group of school bus workers would pull together the way they did.

Dennis Little said "Durham found an immovable force in our union members. Our standards of safety and respect were higher than Durham ever planned. Teamsters have been raising corporate standards since 1903, and we're not stopping now."

Looking back, the amount of work that went into the decision to call the ULP strike is mindboggling. In one afternoon, the negotiations committee made 10 hours of phone calls to everyone in the bargaining unit! **"We had to put a call out for additional phone chargers just to keep the calls going," said negotiating committee member Laura Skluzachek.** (continued on page 5)



BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE REPORT (CONT.)

It was Tuesday, January 31st. Communicating the impacts of the strike action to every MatSu School District parent was impossible. We knew that every child at the bus stop that morning had to be transported to school where they'd be in the trusted care of teachers and staff. After ensuring that all kids were safely at school, bargaining unit members joined together on the picket line with nervous anticipation of what was to come, though we were confident and supported each other.



Our days on the picket line consisted of LOTS of coffee, sign waving, chanting, and encouraging one another. These members were all facing different personal and economic challenges making it hard to join the picket, but we reassured each other and held the line. There were many times that I spoke about splitting our group into shifts so members did not have to be on the picket line all day, but those ideas were always met with comments from **Teamsters like Jeff Adams who said, "You can split us up into shifts, but as long as we have people on the picket line, I will be out here with all of them."**

Most days we ate pizza for lunch. Much to my surprise, even a Teamster gets tired of pizza. We called them strike slices or picket pies. This led to members like Viktor Ivanovich and his wife cooking enough food for 150 people two days in

a row. Marilyne Morris and her husband also Barbequed for everyone one day, and two amazing parents, Rachel Skinner & Jennifer Parker, made homemade chili and cornbread for the entire picket line! The support was incredibly overwhelming.

Every day we came together, in UNITY, to eat lunch, talk about the progress or the lack thereof in negotiations, and plan for the next day's picket. Our hearts were always lifted when **Brother Josh Culbertson, who has the loudest voice among us, would call out, "WHO ARE WE?" and everyone would cheer "TEAMSTERS!"**

If they weren't honking at us while they drove by, UPS Teamster members would join us at school board meetings and on the picket line. They also helped spread our message to the community when we needed it most. We were supported by many Brothers and Sisters from across the state and country. We had Local Teamsters honking in support from Big Dreams, United Freight & Transport, Weaver Brothers, ALSCO, Lynden Transport, K&L Distributors, and many more. Other Business agents from across the state even joined when our lead negotiator Jeremy Holan and I were needed at the negotiation table and couldn't physically be on the line. It was very clear that the community backed us and it gave us strength.

TEAMSTERS THRIVE

The strike stretched out to 5 full weeks before Durham made moves in negotiations. Though we now have an agreement, our efforts continue because our school bus workers still work hard every day to ensure our school bussing is held to our community's standards.



I must take a moment and share just how grateful and surprised I was to distribute the many strike benefit checks for our striking bargaining unit. This money came from our own Local 959 and many others, including the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, other Teamsters Locals, other labor unions, individual donations, Susitna Valley American Legion Auxiliary Unit 35, and a Go Fund Me campaign that was set up and managed by Local 959 UPS Teamster member, Sister Grendal Brenner. This financial support allowed a ragtag group of school bus workers from the MatSu to take on an international company.

It is not an understatement to say this group lit a fire inside every union member in our great state! What I see from this Bargaining Unit is dignity. I see Teamsters standing up for themselves and their community, it's something I want to see more of in every Bargaining Unit. I am personally, deeply moved, and truly inspired by you all. I never put a lot of thought into calling fellow Teamsters 'Brothers and Sisters', but seeing you all come together with integrity as a family out there on that picket line, bringing me with you, showed me what solidarity is and what we can accomplish with it. I am beyond proud of all you stand for, and all you fight for. I am honored to have been a part of all of this and to call you my Union Brothers and Sisters.



MATSU SCHOOL BUS WORKERS



MATSU SCHOOL BUS WORKERS



ALASKA TEAMSTER-EMPLOYER SERVICE TRAINING TRUST

Training Tomorrow's Teamsters for Alaska's Future

In 2022 a question was asked to our Apprenticeship Coordinator, Cheri Lipps, "How do we get high school graduates a CDL?". The simple answer is to sign them up when they turn 18. But we don't do simple things here at the Training Trust! Apprenticeship Coordinator Cheri Lipps took that as a challenge to create a program where high school seniors could attend their ASD classes **AND** train with us for their CDL, simultaneously, meaning they would graduate CDL training, High School with their Diploma, and enter our Construction Truck Driver apprenticeship program; begin earning a living wage, accruing benefits, and have a kickass career all in four months!

Working directly with King Tech High School (KTHS) and ASD's Career and Technical Education Program (CTE) staff, we created a schedule that would allow students to start their CDL training as early as age 17 providing they would be 18 by Spring Break making them eligible to obtain their commercial learners permit (CLP). Once three students were selected from the KTHS referrals, a Meet & Greet was had with them, their parents, staff from KTHS, the Department of Labor, 959 Secretary-Treasurer Gary Dixon & staff, and Apprenticeship Coordinator Cheri Lipps. What an incredible evening that was! It felt like a major college signing event! Everyone left knowing we were on the right track.



The pilot program kicked off on February 6, 2023, with three talented young adults who are as eager to be here as we are to have them. Bryanna Robarge, Tristan Schilke, and Zayne Sena have excelled at the curriculum obtaining their CLPs and HazMat background checks, and have now moved on to the behind-the-wheel skills driver training. They will graduate from the 11-week Basic Driver CDL, a Pre-Apprenticeship course, on April 27, 2023, and roll

right into additional industry-specific training during May. The three of them will then graduate from their respective high schools by May 18th, just in time to start their first dispatch for summer as 1st-year Construction Truck Driver Apprentices. Meanwhile, KTHS career counselors are working with additional ambitious seniors to register for summer CDL courses which include the next upcoming Construction Driver Apprenticeship training in July.

Speaking of apprenticeship training...We are currently recruiting statewide for Construction Driver Apprentices. Our goal is 23 in 2023! We have the first three! Whom do you know that will fill those additional spots? Applications are available now on our website at akteamsterstraining.com/apprenticeship where you'll find details on eligibility and requirements. The application deadline is May 19 at 4 PM. Eligible applicants will be interviewed on June 12, 2023, for one of the three additional training sessions we have this year. The first one starts on July 24, 2023, in Anchorage.

In other training news, Summer Construction Season is kicking off soon! We have created several training courses in partnership with employers to get members ready. If you need certifications, upgraded skills, or a CDL; please reach out and let us know. The Training Trust schedule is sent by email periodically as new courses become available. You can register on the member side of our website to receive these notifications at akteamsterstraining.com/member-training-programs.



Tristan Schilke



Bryanna Robarge



Zayne Sena

JOB ALERT

The Alaska Teamster-Employer Service Training Trust (ATESTT) is seeking a qualified surveyor journey worker to teach our Surveyor Assistant Apprenticeship core classes two times a year. Contact our Director John Lovdahl or Apprenticeship Coordinator Cheri Lipps toll free at 1-800-478-4233 for more information.

Equal Opportunity Statement

ATESTT does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. ATESTT is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer fully committed to achieving a diverse workforce and complies with all Federal and Alaska State laws, regulations, and executive orders regarding non-discrimination and affirmative action.



TEAMSTERS HEALTH & WELFARE AND PENSION FUNDS

News from the Pension Trust

Required Minimum Distributions (When Pension Payments are Mandatory): Participants are required to begin their pension benefits under the Plan by no later than their "required beginning date" – currently April 1st of the year following the year they reach 72. (The SECURE Act of 2019 increased the triggering age from 70 ½ to 72, effective for participants born after 06/30/1949).

SECURE Act 2.0 *increases* the applicable age trigger for retirement benefits under the Plan from age 72 to 73, effective for participants not yet age 72 as of December 31, 2022 (i.e., those born in 1951 or later).

What does this mean to you? If you have separated from service or are a more than 5% owner of your employer, you must make application to start receiving your retirement benefit no later than April 1 of the year which follows the year in which you reach age 73.

If you have any questions, please contact the Alaska Teamster-Employer Pension Trust.



The Alaska Teamster-Employer Welfare & Pension Trust Plans offices lobby hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 12 PM and 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM (The Trust offices are 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 hours or email us at benefits@959trusts.com for assistance.

NEWS FROM THE HALL

Welcome!

New Team Member

Meet Patrick Dolan! He's the newest Business Representative at the Anchorage Teamster Hall. Patrick comes to us from the Carrs/Safeway Distribution Center where he took his first, and only dispatch 20+ years ago. He is a 2nd generation Teamster as both his father and father-in-law are retired

959 members. He's the proud father of three boys and celebrates 24 years with his wife. Patrick's longevity extends to his community where he has volunteered his time serving on Boards and coaching with Dimond West Little League, South Anchorage Hockey Association, and Anchorage Hockey Association for over 20 years. In his spare time, he enjoys playing hockey and going to the gym in the winter, hunting, fishing, and camping in the summer. He also loves spending time with family and friends around the BBQ. Patrick expressed looking forward to working for the union and all its members past, present, and future.



Patrick Dolan



Lynn Hessin-Caron

Familiar Face in a New Place

Our newest Union Dues & Membership Clerk in the Anchorage Dues office is Lynn Hessin-Caron. You may recognize her smiling face as she spent the last 4 years working in the Alaska Teamster-Employer Welfare & Pension Trusts office assisting our members and retirees. In her new position in Dues, Lynn says, "I am honored to be able to continue the same services and more to anyone and everyone that walks through our doors." We are very happy to continue to have her cheerful

attitude here. Make sure to give her a nice welcome next time you're at the Anchorage Union Hall.



Get meeting & event updates, opt-in for Local 959 Text Messaging!

**Text the keyword
TEAMSTERS
to 1-855-904-2989**

IN MEMORY ♥ DECEASED BROTHERS & SISTERS

NOVEMBER 2022 & PRIOR—Not Previously Listed

Linda Paganelli	Doyon/Aramark
Craig Dunn	JB Gottstein
Simon Tretikoff	Chugach Support Svcs
James Peterson	AT&T Alaska
Paul Stoddard	Houston Construction
James Farrell	Alaska Frontier Constructors
Gerald Brown	K&L Distributors
Richard Nantau	Anchorage School District
Mason Kelly	Four Star Terminals
Roger Graham	Lockheed Martin
David Conn	AT&T Alaska
Stephen Rada	Granite Construction
Charles Weiler	ITT Federal Services
Ronald Naumann	AT&T Alascom
Susan Namur	AT&T Alascom
Henry Minich	Bayless & Roberts
Lawrence Joseph	Houston Construction
Duwayn Kirkvold	Kodiak Oilfield Haulers
Gumersino Piza	Bendix Field Eng.
Joe Beaudion	Lynden Transport, Inc.
Philip Hauser	Teamsters Local 959
Kenneth Jelinek	United Parcel Service, Inc.
Robert Moore	Merrick Management
David Sprinkle	Fuzzy's Trucking
Ferdinand Viniegra	Piquini Mgmt Corp
Darrell Johnson	Municipality of Anchorage
Donald Jones	Norcon, Inc.
DECMEBER 2022	
Francis Merrigan	Anchorage Cold Storage
Charles Zupan	Emulsion Products Co.
Garry Bridges	TCC Joint Venture

Glenn Kiehl
Bruce Slater
Larry Marchant
Willie Sasser
Casimiro Cruz
Richard Covington
Harold Haldane
Daniel English
David Nichols
Geraldine Kottre

JANUARY 2023

Bob Hobson
James Eason
Gary Brown
Richard Gould
Tony Knuutila

Weaver Bros. Municipality of Anchorage
HC Price Company
Kodiak Oilfield Haulers
Safeway
University Redi Mix
AT&T Alascom
Lynden Transport, Inc.
Enserch Environmental
Anchorage School District

Hobson Trucking & Excavating
Green Construction
Alascom PTI
ARCTEC Services
Aleut O&M Services LLC

Mitchell Cutshall
Stanley Stenberg
Jack Hiler
Ellis Reed
Larry Russo

Carolle Nepper
Alexine Leach

FEBRUARY 2023

Mark Stepp

Jeffrey Cotton
Robert Yancy
Patricia Garrett
Brooks Gaines
Mark Tyree
Ronald Guettinger
David Milette

MARCH 2023

Edmund Guy
Daverle Merrill
Donald Oyen
David Hoffenkamp

Fredrick Byron
Mary Reischl
Zale Wood
Wolfgang Falke

Estelle Jackson
Russell Sandbo
Wolfgang Hahn

Dorman McGraw
Don McVeigh
Donald Thomas

AK Teamster Employer Svc Training Trust
AS&D, Inc
Continental Baking Co.
JB Gottstein
COLASKA DBA SECON/AGGPRO
AK Constructors, Inc.
AT&T Alaska

Anchorage School District
F. Robert Bell & Assoc.
Norcon, Inc.
Wein Air
Anchorage School District
AT&T Alaska
Alaska Industrial LLC
Alascom PTI

HC Price Company
Black Gold Express
Arctic Slope/Wright
Municipality of Anchorage
AT&T Alaska
Teamsters Local 959
Aleutian Constructors
Earth Movers of Fairbanks
Alascom, Inc.
ITT Federal Services
Spenard Builders Supply
AT&T Alaska
Nanuq, Inc.
Wilder Construction

*Goodbyes
are not forever.
Goodbyes are not the end.
They simply mean
I'll miss you,
until we meet again.*

CELEBRATING MILESTONES

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

NOVEMBER 2022

David Wilson	10
Jonathan Diaz	10
Ouseynou Diop	10
Patrick Dobbs	10
Randy Creek	10
Buena Alas	15
Patricia Wright	15
Patsy Clifton	15
Shawn Roos	15
Tod Williams	15
Vanessa Fuson	15
Jeff Fleetwood	20
Jeffrey Bates	20
Robert Samse	20
Stephen Collins	20
Gary Weidner	30
Kelly Degenstein	40
Paul Schroeder	40

DECEMBER 2022

Olaf Lord	10
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Shawn Shilliam	10
Jesse Farrell	10
Vincent Cain	10
Lisa Vertrees	10
Kelli Kilcher	10
Joey Foster	10
William Fenderson	10
Christian Soane	10
Dustin Draper	15
Heather Bishop	15
Michael Liberti	15
William Price	15
Lisiate Aholelei	15
Yolanda Howard	25
Jennifer Capala	25
John Corning	30
Howard Morris	40
Diane Puro	45
Gerald Schoneck	50
Larry Bouwens Sr	50

JANUARY 2023

Erik Dufford	10
Joseph Merrill	10
Stacey Morlen	10
William Macpherson	10
Bonnie McCartney	10
Richard Isaacson	10
Emiliano Richmond Flores	15

Paul Crater	15
Marvin Olinger	15
Shelaine Thompson	15
Siaosi Soane	20
Nestor Pacis	20
Jason Gibson	20
Katie Ebersole	20
David Loomis	25
Cameron Carter	25
Eileen Whitmer	25
Carl Lott	30
Peter Jackson	30
✪ Jack Slama ✪	55

FEBRUARY 2023

Christopher Blue	10
Dale Alexander	10
Robin Tupper	10
Scott Bickford	10
Daniel Fowler	10
Marvin Tavarez	10
Michael Brown	15
Bart Howard	15
Jackson Vue	15
Sherry Himes	20
Noel Rapanot	20
Stacey Cole	20
William Markwood	20
Floyd Woods	25

Michael Garganta	25
Ted Justen, Sr.	25
Jeanne Hollerbach	30
Scott Stowell	45
Jim Muletta	45
Michael Killian	45
Larry Gray	50
Edward Mayo	50

MARCH 2023

Joel Gonzalez	10
Michael Sosa	10
Titi Kenese	10
Mark Skrade	10
Robert Her	10
Jordan Clarke	10
Albert Aragon	10
Seth Keliikipi-Nitta	10
Peter Hammermeister	15
Jodi Andrews	15
Philip Ray	20
Joshua Nix	20
Shannon Wilson	20
Vesta Spencer	25
Robert West	25
Tony Frerichs	25
Sidney Pruitt Jr	35
Paul Lamoureux	40
Richard Funner	40

CELEBRATING RETIREES

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

NOVEMBER 2022 & PRIOR—Not previously listed

Kevin Roberts	Lynden Transport, Inc.
Larry Birmley	AT&T Alaska
Kenneth D Ellis	AT&T Alaska
Kenneth Bauman	Anchorage Sand & Gravel
Randy L Kinkade	Black Gold Express
Mary Ann Kohnke	Elmendorf Support Svcs
Richard W Pittenger	Bush Const. Surveys, Inc
Tim Hockenbury	ASRC ES - Houston Contracting
Rebecca Tift	Doyon/Aramark Denali
William J Burton	ARCTEC Alaska
Patricia A Petit	United Parcel Service, Inc.
Jeffrey Bohren	ARCTEC Alaska
Dale Ebben	Doyon/Aramark Denali
Eric Fronk	Doyon/Aramark Denali
Robert Kornek	Indyne, Inc.
Sammy Garcia	ARCTEC Alaska
Stephen Baumeister	ARTEC Alaska
George Grovhoug	Arctic Slope Technical Service
Rene W Lamoureux	AILU #1 Longshore
Janet Read	AILU #1 Longshore
Darrell G Garrett	Arctic Slope Woldr Svs
Kenneth Pergola	AILU #1 Longshore
Marlin Virg-In	AT&T Alaska
Monty N Carpenter	Doyon/Aramark Denali
James R Bolduc	Wolf Creek Federal Services
Frank D Popp	Wolf Creek Federal Services
Katharine Swift	Doyon/Aramark Denali
John Harris	ASRC ES - Houston Contracting
Eric Shepherd	United Parcel Service, Inc.
Lucia Dryden	Interstate Brands
Steven A Baker	AILU #1 Longshore
Wanda Wilson	Alascom
Patrick R Vick	ALSCO Alaska
Robert Lewis	Black Gold Express Inc.

DECEMBER 2022

Kathy D. Johnson	AK Teamster-Employer Svc Training Trust
David Laughton	Doyon/Aramark Denali
Mark S Hunsaker	Eastwind, Inc.
Glen D Casey	United Parcel Service, Inc.
James Och	Weaver Bros.
Timothy DeBoer	Matson Navigation Co.
Paul D Witteman	Alutiiq Management
Jeffrey Lindow	Sea Star Stevedore

Kelly Degenstein
David Elsen
Dudley Smith

JANUARY 2023

William Millington
Howard M Gish Jr
Noel Holder
Michael Bruner
Samuel S Sumrall
Douglas Brotherton
Robert L Witt
Charles Morota
Kirk Lally
Waino Salo Jr
Vergilio Lucas
Michael D Jensen

FEBRUARY 2023

Gary M Gardien
Edward Olidan
Francisco M Saquilayan
Earl A Gaines
Terry Hennessey
Michael J Fisher

MARCH 2023

Cynthia A Camilli
Thomas Bierle
Sophia Stichler
Sandra Burket
Michael Carter
Robert W Gaylor
Anthony Davis
Bill Tomaro
Kenneth Tyler
Terry Hebert
Ronald K Anderson

APRIL 2023

Glenn Klein
Leonard Seurer
Rex Deano
Walter Parra
William Moran
Dwight E Hauptman
Robert G Barnes
Brad Roberts
Robert Ervin
Kurt J. Foley
James H Altherr

AILU #1 Longshore
United Parcel Service, Inc.
Ahtna Construction

Weaver Bros.
ARCTEC Alaska
Elmendorf Support Services
AILU #1 Longshore
Sea Star Stevedore
Matson Navigation Co.
United Freight & Transport, Inc.
United Freight & Transport, Inc.
United Parcel Service, Inc.
Lynden Transport, Inc.
Republic Parking System
ASRC ES-Houston Contracting

A.I.C. LLC
United Parcel Service, Inc.
Casillas Partners, LLC
Norcon, Inc.
Matson Navigation Co.
ASRC ES-Houston Contracting

Emulsion Products Company
Facility Services Management
Quality Asphalt Paving
Anchorage School District
United Parcel Service, Inc.
United Freight & Transport, Inc.
Safeway
AT&T Alaska
AT&T Alaska
AILU #1 Longshore
United Freight & Transport, Inc.

Emulsion Products Company
Black Gold Express, Inc.
AILU #1 Longshore
Exclusive Paving
United Parcel Service, Inc.
TCC Joint Venture
Nanuq, Inc.
United Parcel Service, Inc.
ALSCO Alaska
AT&T Alaska
Arctic Surveys Co.



Retiree, Robert Barnes

Brother Robert Barnes is Retired!

Bob acquired his CDL through Local 959's Training Trust in 2008. He made his seasoned Teamster career working on the North Slope with Alaska Interior Construction and Alaska Frontier Constructors and had many different road construction projects throughout.

In his retirement, Bob will continue to settle into his Copper River Basin homestead where he has literally built his home one giant log at a time.

We wish you nothing but the best in your retirement, Brother Barnes!





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

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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

April 2023