



# Business Agent Report

February 2013

By: Javier Lectora and Rich Petrovsky

**2012 James Hoffa Scholarship:** Congratulations go to Crystal Romero (daughter of SFOOV and Local 986 Union member George Romero) as one of the winners of the 2012 James R. Hoffa Memorial scholarship. Throughout her recent academic years, Crystal has achieved numerous local, state and national awards for her outstanding academic performance and civic service. Once again, congratulations to Crystal for her outstanding achievements and to her proud father, George Romero.

**DRIVE Campaign:** Democratic, Republican, Independent Voter Education or **DRIVE** is the Teamsters' political action committee. Your contributions support grassroots actions by Teamster families to stand up to the interests of Big Business, help elect political candidates (regardless of their political affiliation) and support legislation that backs American workers. Big Business outspends working families on political issues by more than 15 to 1, influencing members of Congress to push their anti-worker plans to stifle middle class America. Here in California, proposition 32 was a perfect example of well funded special interest groups efforts to take away workers rights. Donating at least one to five dollars per month should not impact most of our members, while the positive influence your donations have by improving on-the-job benefits are enormous. If you haven't already signed up for this important program, please contact your steward or stop by your committee room to fill out an application. The return value you receive from your donations far outweigh the contributions to this significant program.

**Retirement Seminar:** EAP representatives Joe Schwirian and Steve Loone once again did an exceptional job of putting on the Retirement Seminar for our members with the help of Fred Wood, Mikey Albertin, Mike Valladeres and Javier Lectora. The seminar was well attended with almost seventy members being present. The EAP committee also had representatives from Kaiser Medical foundation in attendance to answer questions on retiree medical benefits. All together, it was another very informative seminar produced by our EAP committee. We thank Steve and Joe for their continued efforts in helping our members and those who participated that day.

**Time Is Running Out:** You have less than a month left to renew your FAA license. This will be the last reminder in our Business Agent reports before the “drop dead” date of March 31<sup>st</sup>. As stated in last month’s report, if you still hold a **paper FAA license** it will no longer be valid on March 31, 2013. **That means you won’t be able to work** as an A&P Technician! The process to apply for your new certificate is simple, takes only a few minutes to complete and is only \$2.00. Just go to the following link to update your FAA license to the new plastic certificate because time IS running out!

[http://www.faa.gov/licenses\\_certificates/airmen\\_certification/expiring\\_paper\\_certificates/](http://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/airmen_certification/expiring_paper_certificates/)

**Negotiations Update:** As some of you know, the SFO Business Agents have been alternating participation in negotiations in order to have one business agent at SFO while the other goes to negotiations in Chicago. The language committee met to go over the changes agreed to in principal by the sub committees over the last 8 weeks. Between the three separate agreements there were over 100 items in 24 articles that required review in order to accurately draft the new CBA language. Many of these items were less significant such as changing “Continental” to “United” while others were more substantial and captured concepts that were not previously in the contract language. The language committee continued working through Letters Of Agreements (LOA’s) and other contract provisions by removing duplications while retaining the protective substance of the language. The negotiating committee returned to Chicago the last week of February to review work done by the language committee. In addition several sub committees met with the assistance of the NMB to work towards finalizing any remaining issues. Phase 1 is expected to be completed on time near the end of this month. On our last day in Chicago, actuary Peter Hardcastle, economist Dan Akin and health care specialist Gaelle Gravot met with the negotiating committee to discuss pension, pay and health benefit issues. This briefing provided an overview of the phase two benefit information for the rank and file negotiating team and helped to answer questions from this committee. As reported last month, we ask each of you to stay informed by going to our Teamster web sites and click on the negotiations update links for the latest information. We will be meeting in Chicago the week of March 11<sup>th</sup> and will continue to keep you updated going forward.