



Business Agent Report

June 2014

By Javier Lectora and Rich Petrovsky

Taylor Farms Rally: On June 12th, over 400 Teamsters and prospective Teamster members rallied together with General President Jim Hoffa in support of the struggling workers at Taylor Farms in Tracy, California. This food packing facility has been charged with harassing workers, wage theft, unfair labor practices and other claims filed with the NLRB. Assemblyman Roger Hernandez, chairman of the Committee on Labor and Employment, joined us at the rally in support of the workers who are working in adverse conditions at the facility. During the speeches, some Taylor Farms employees (who were allegedly being paid to stay after work to protest the Teamsters) started throwing rocks, injuring some of the participants at the rally. While the Teamster supporters listened to guest speakers such as Art Pulaski (Chief Officer of the California Labor Federation AFL-CIO) speaking in support of their fight, the paid company employees wearing “baby blue” T-shirts attempted in vain to interrupt the rally. It was a great show of support and solidarity for those workers trying to join the Teamster Union. Just as other Teamster members from outside of our industry stood shoulder to shoulder with us during our organizing drive, it was a pleasure to be there for these struggling workers to help them organize in an effort to realize a better life for themselves and their families.



San Mateo County Fair: Teamster representatives Steve Loone and Rich Petrovsky volunteered to man the Labor Booth at the San Mateo County Fair on June 9th. The Labor Council (representing many Labor Unions in San Mateo County) voted to rent a booth at the San Mateo County fair this year, to inform the general public of the benefits that Unions bring to the working class people throughout the world. Most folks don't realize benefits like Holidays and weekends off, good paying jobs, medical and retirement benefits are in place today because UNIONS fought for them years ago. Even if employees are not in a job that is represented by a Union, chances are they share some of the benefits won by Union Labor. It was great talking with some of the younger people who stopped by the booth and explaining to them all the good that Unions do. Unfortunately, schools spend very little or no time at all educating students about the benefits of Unions and quite often teach just the opposite.

Jim Hoffa was IN THE HOUSE: on Friday June 13th, Jim Hoffa took time out of his busy schedule to visit the United Airlines SFO maintenance base for the first time since we became Teamsters. Jim took the two hours before his flight back to Washington to walk through the facility and talk with members along the way. After the abbreviated tour, he spent time with the Chief Stewards and a few of the Shop Stewards in a question and answer session in the main committee room. Hoffa was very interested in the work we perform here at the SFO base. He appreciated the opportunity to talk with Teamster members as they showed him the work they do to keep the company's aircraft flying safely and reliably.



While the visit was short, Jim Hoffa thoroughly enjoyed his time here and said it won't be as long a time period before he returns for another visit. We thank General President Hoffa for making time in his schedule to visit with fellow Teamster members here at the Base.

SFO Steering Committees Meet: The SFO negotiations steering committee members met with rank and file negotiators John Laurin, Joe Prisco and alternate Don Stevens the week of June 21st, to discuss contract language changes that need to be addressed during negotiations. These meetings will help direct our negotiators to where changes need to be made in an effort to make the language in the contract easier to understand and leave less room for contract violations due to "interpretation" by UA management!

Negotiations Committee Update: The Union negotiators are scheduled to gather in Chicago the week of July 7th for meetings with the company. This will be the first assembly between the rank and file negotiators and the company's negotiating team since we broke off last November. These meetings will be without the Mediator and will help us to better prepare for the upcoming negotiations in August. Updates on this meeting will be promptly reported on by the committee.

System Steering Committee To Meet: The chairs of the steering committees from across the system will be meeting in Denver on July 24th and 25th to receive input and confer with the negotiators and strategize over issues that need to be brought forward prior to reconvening negotiations this coming August. These Union members have worked tirelessly to best represent the rank and file membership at the negotiating table. We thank them for their dedication and the sacrifices they make by being away from their homes and families in an effort to bring a better Contract and benefits to all they represent.

SFO Meetings Continue: SFO Business Agents continue to meet with the company on a weekly basis in an effort to resolve some of the unforeseen issues associated with the base transformation and the seven day coverage problems in airframe maintenance. While many of the problems our members are experiencing were brought to light by us prior to implementation, the company has chosen not to listen and the end result has been a disruption of our member's lives. We are hopeful that, through continued dialogue with upper management, some sense of normalcy will be returned and more standardization of shifts will be reinstated.

This has been a very difficult time for everyone and a tremendous battle for us as representatives. We are committed to working towards making changes that will benefit our Union members and still produce a quality product for the carrier at the same time.

Joint Council 7 Turn Out: A great time was had by many Teamster members who joined the Barbeque and tailgate party prior to the A's vs. Yankee's game at the Oakland stadium. Roughly a thousand Teamster members enjoyed the festivities before they filled an entire section of the stadium to watch the two teams play. Congratulations to our Teamsters SFO members who won tickets for the game from the Solidarity Fund Raffle and thanks to EAP representative Steve Loone for donating two tickets for this great cause and event.

Your Teamsters SFO Representatives would like to wish each and every one of our members a safe and **Happy Fourth of July** to you and your families.