



LAS VEGAS 2011

Convention *News*

28th INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Monday, June 27, 2011

GCC Delegates Hold Second Convention Since Teamster Merger

Local union officers representing Graphic Communications Conference (GCC) members in the United States and Canada gathered at the Flamingo Hotel prior to the IBT Convention for their Second Quinquennial Convention since merging with the Teamsters Union in 2005.

“We have a lot of work to do during our Convention,” said George Tedeschi, President of the GCC and Teamsters International Vice President. “Since our merger in 2005 we have benefited greatly by being part of the Teamsters Union. The Teamsters, due to their size and expertise, have helped us with organizing projects, administrative support and other needs.”

During the three days of their Convention the delegates considered and voted on resolutions which would help guide the union into the future.

There were a number of special guests that spoke to the delegates, particularly about the impact of the 2010 elections. Many attendees expressed their belief

Continued on page 3



Welcome to the 28th International Convention

Delegates Gather to Chart Union's Future

The 28th International Convention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters opens today under the banner of “Vision, Solidarity, Action.”

Meeting at the Paris Hotel in Las Vegas, more than 1,800 delegates will map out the future course of the 1.4-million-member Teamsters Union.

According to the Teamster Constitution, the International Convention is the supreme policy-making body of the union, with the power and authority to modify the Constitution, establish programs, address fiscal issues and set priorities. This week, delegates will consider a number of constitutional measures and resolutions.

Delegates also have the important task of nominating candidates for the International offices of General President, General Secretary-Treasurer, Vice Presidents and Trustees.

“On behalf of Teamsters throughout the West, I’d like to welcome you to the 28th International Convention,” said Randy Cammack, International Vice

President and President of the host Teamster affiliate, Joint Council 42 in Covina, Calif.

A number of distinguished guests will also address the gathered Teamsters, including Vice President Joe Biden, U.S. Rep. Steven LaTourette, musician Tom Morello, actor Danny DeVito, Missouri Treasurer and Teamster Clint Zweifel, and a delegation of union leaders and activists from all over the United States, Australia, Canada, China, Great Britain, India and Mexico.

Inside

Exhibit Hall Open for Business	2
Joe Biden Returns	2
In the Spotlight	3
Today's Agenda Highlights	4
Committees Meet to Plan Union's Future	4

Joe Biden to Address Delegates Friday Vice President Makes Return Trip to Teamsters Convention

At the 27th International Convention in 2006, then-Sen. Joe Biden addressed delegates on many subjects dear to labor. He returns to the 28th Convention on Friday as Vice President of the United States.

Biden's support for the labor movement and the middle class is legendary. Long known as "Mr. Amtrak," he's the greatest ally of passenger rail in the country.

"Joe Biden has always been a friend of the Teamsters Union, but when he was chosen to chair the White House Middle Class Task Force, we knew this administration was going to work hard for working families," said Tom Keegel, Teamsters Secretary-Treasurer. "He was a key ally in the Senate and now he's a key ally in the White House."

The Middle Class Task Force is a major initiative targeted at raising the living standards of middle class families in America. Goals of the Task Force include improving the work/family balance; restoring labor



Vice President Joe Biden, then a U.S. senator, addresses the 27th International Convention on June 26, 2006.

standards, including workplace safety; helping protect middle class incomes and retirement security.

"A strong middle class means a strong

America. We can't have one without the other," Vice President Biden has said. "It is our charge to get the middle class—the backbone of this country—up and running again."

Teamster Legacy Comes to Life at Exhibition Hall



The Convention theme of "Vision, Solidarity, Action" is reflected in the impressive exhibit hall located across from the Paris Ballroom. This exhibit area includes more than 30 booths from Teamster divisions, conferences and departments.

The central exhibit features interactive viewing and listening stations that tell the story of our Teamster legacy. There are four listening and viewing stations with 12 choices of video and audio recordings, a well as four display cases with Teamster memorabilia.

You can listen to a recording of Franklin Roosevelt; watch a video on Teamsters and the civil rights movement; hear a recording of the official Teamsters song; and view Teamster solidarity in action.

Once you've been educated and entertained by the Teamsters history exhibit, preserve the memory of the 28th International Teamsters Convention by recording your own Teamster story for future generations in the video recording booth.

"This is incredible to see our history here and to be at this Convention to witness the important work that will be done to shape our future," said Michael Petro, a UPS driver and 21-year member of Local 355 in Baltimore.

Free Internet access is available at the Internet Café in the exhibit hall. The exhibit hall is open Monday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Joint Council 10 Truck Greet Teamsters



GCC Delegates Hold Second Convention Since Teamster Merger



Continued from page 1

in staying united behind President Barack Obama. The Teamsters Union, along with members of the GCC, mobilized more than 40,000 members in 2008 to help elect Obama. Everyone at the Convention agreed that they have to join the battle to stop the war on workers and let their collective, strong voice be heard.

“We are going to go out and make sure that our members are organized, that they are registered and that they go to the polls,” said Jim Hoffa, Teamsters General President. “This is a time to wake up the labor movement.”

In the SPOTLIGHT

What are you most looking forward to at this Convention?

“I am looking forward to the solidarity with the other delegates. I was at the 2006 Convention after our merger. It’s a great honor to be here.”
 —Ed Williams, GCC Local 285M, Washington, D.C.



“I’m interested in learning the ins and outs of the political process so I can be a better negotiator and understand better how our union works.”
 —Lauren Holley-Allen, Local 355, Baltimore

“I’m excited about this convention and Vegas, as well as having the opportunity to participate with a voice.”
 —Ransome Bradley, Local 135, Indianapolis



“I’m looking forward to serving at my first Teamsters Convention as a sergeant-at-arms. It’s an honor and a privilege to serve in this capacity and to have this responsibility.”
 —Robert Stansbury, Local 396, Covina, Calif.



Follow the
28th International Convention
on the web at
www.teamster.org/convention

MONDAY Agenda Highlights

All Times and Events are Subject to Change

- 7:30 a.m. Registration and Exhibits Open
- 9:30 a.m. Call to Order
- 10:10 a.m. Nevada Treasurer Kate Marshall
- 10:50 a.m. Report of the General President
- 11:05 a.m. Committee Reports
- 11:30 a.m. Indiana State Rep. Patrick Bauer
- 11:40 a.m. War on Workers Testimonials
- Noon Lunch Recess
- 2 p.m. Call to Order
Musician Tom Morello
- 2:40 p.m. Committee Reports
- 3:30 p.m. Fair Trade Report
- 4 p.m. Cross-Border Trucking Report
- 4:30 p.m. Convention Adjourns



Committees Meet to Plan Union's Future

In the days leading up to today's session, Convention Committees were hard at work laying the foundation for a productive and successful Convention. Those committees were:

The Appeals and Grievance Committee, co-chaired by Steve Mack, President of Local 853 in San Leandro, Calif., and Becky Strzechowski, Assistant Trustee of Local 700 in Park Ridge, Ill., giving members and locals a final recourse after receiving a General Executive Board hearing.

The Constitution Committee, co-chaired by Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa and Teamsters General Secretary-Treasurer Tom Keegel, considering proposed amendments to the International Constitution.

The Credentials Committee, co-chaired by Tom Ratliff, President of Local 639 in Washington, D.C., and Tom Stiede, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 703 in Chicago.

The Diversity Committee, co-chaired by Antonio Christian, Director of the Teamsters Human Rights

Commission, and Betty Rose Fischer, Trustee of Local 538 in Worthington, Pa.

The Organizing Committee, co-chaired by Robert Rasch, President of Local 19 in Houston, and Tracey Thompson, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 117 in Tukwila, Wash.

The Pensions and Benefits Committee, co-chaired by Rome Aloise, International Vice President, and Tom Keegel, General Secretary-Treasurer.

The Political and Legislative Committee, co-chaired by Bob Morales, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 350 in Daly City, Calif., and Chuck Whobrey, President of Local 215 in Evansville, Ind.

The Resolutions Committee, co-chaired by Larry Griffith, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 14 in Las Vegas, and Greg Nowak, President of Local 1038 in Detroit.

The Rules Committee, co-chaired by Leticia Acosta, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 657 in San Antonio, and Sean O'Brien, President of Local 25 in Boston.