

Writers needed for Local 260 Newsletter.

Do you love to write? Do you enjoy communicating your ideas to people? Do you like providing information for people to make informed decisions? Then the local 260 TWU is looking for you. As we continue to reach out and keep our membership informed through social media and the newsletter, there is need for dedicated writers or people with journalism skills. Call the office for further information: **713-864-4346.**

President's Corner



I am excited to announce that we will have our 1st Official Regular Union Meeting in our own "Union Hall". I need your help to assist me in making Local 260 the best it can be. **Stop listening** to those who have given up the fight, for a Fair Labor Agreement. Our present contract expires July 31, 2015, and as your President I challenge the membership to look inside yourself. Ask not what your Union can do for you, but what you can do to better your Union? Let's come together as one. Looking forward to seeing YOU, Saturday, September 27, 2014 at **YOUR new Union Hall!**

Your President,
Horace J. Marves



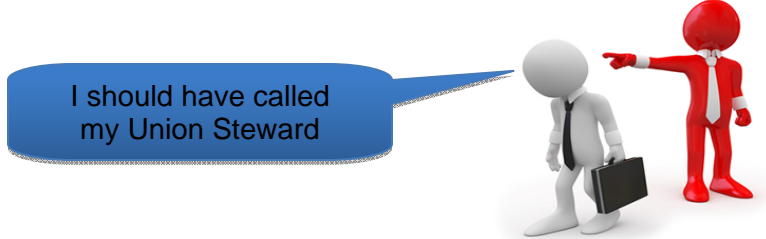
Transport Workers Union Local 260
2150 W. 18th. Street, Suite 104
Houston, TX 77008
Office: 713-864-4346
Fax: 713-869-5655

Local 260 EXPRESS



Sept. 2014

Make Better Use of Union Stewards



Local 260 President Horace Marves believes too many workers are entrapping themselves by discussing disciplinary matters with management without the representation of a Union Steward. Many times members enter into a conversation with management, unaware of their rights, and place themselves at a disadvantage and end up being disciplined when it could have been avoided. Members should make use of the 72-hour timeframe upon receiving a book in slip to seek out a Union Steward, or Officer, before entering discussions with management.

Theunionsteward.com suggests when called in by management an employee should say, "If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, I respectfully request that my shop steward be present at the meeting. Without representation present, I choose not to respond to any questions or statements." This is within your right and provides you with added defense and a witness to the conversation. Remember management is not always on the side of the employee.

Mary Simon, a Union Steward, at Fallbrook, says many times she is called in to represent a member facing disciplinary action based on errors in an accident report or statements they may have given in an interview. Additionally, Mary stated, it is most difficult to reverse mistakes made by members, without a steward present.

There are over forty union stewards presently available to the bargaining unit members. Simon advises to get acquainted with the representatives at your facility on a first name basis. So get to know them, regardless, whether you need representation or not –stewards are a great source of information.

In This Issue

Make better use of Union Stewards
Pg. 1
TWU & Local 260 volunteer at Food bank.
Pg. 2
Dollars & Sense
Pg. 3
President's Corner
Pg. 4

Contributors
Andrew Bruce
Robert Garrett
Horace Marves

Newsletter Editors
Andrew Bruce - Editor
R. Garrett - Co-Editor

Transport Workers Union Local 260
2150 W. 18th. Street, Suite 104
Houston TX 77008

Phone: 713-864-4346
Fax: 713-869-5655

Future articles or ideas may be submitted by fax to 713-869-5655.

TWU and Local 260 Volunteer at Houston Food Bank

About 15 TWU and Local 260 members teamed up and volunteered with bagging, boxing and stocking food items at the Houston Food Bank' warehouse to assist with its food drive on August 23, 2014. The food will be delivered to the needy in Houston.

The Houston Food Bank feeds 137,000 hungry people each week by providing 65 million nutritious meals each year to 18 counties in southeast Texas. They hope to provide 100 million nutritious meals by the year 2018.



Local 260 Union Meeting

Come, be informed and be heard on Saturday, September 27, 2014, at the New Local 260 Union Conference Center at 2150 W. 18th. Street, Suite 106 Houston TX 77008



Gone are the days when employers had an innate social responsibility to provide for its employees, after decades of loyal service—a livable retirement. Gone Indeed!

Defined benefit plans have become a relic of the past, as employers are shifting costs to employees, through defined contribution plans (interpreted as: you contribute to your own retirement), even when companies financial coffers are flush with cash.

“The fact remains that traditional defined –benefit plans are most cost-effective than riskier 401 (k)-type defined contribution plans in which employees have to become their own financial advisors.” (Max Patterson, Houston Chronicle, June 30, 2011.)

I urge, exalt, and plead with members to secure your future today by using a simple rule of thumb procedure for saving for tomorrow—Tithing.

Yes, tithing. Set aside no less than ten (10) percent religiously (I personally recommend closer to 20%), and do not uproot your investment tree, save for the most dire and devastating event.

Presently, eligible bargaining members retirement income equate to less than fifty (50%) of pre-retirement income—hardly a livable income without qualifying for social security.

Conversely, management employees retire with over seventy/eighty (70-80%), of pre-retirement income—in addition to social security, when qualified.

Can we clamor for the “golden rule” here?

Whether our cry will fall on deaf ears—remain to be seen; but it would make “Dollars and Sense” to employ the method of tithing, and rely on God’s grace, for our future.