



ATU 1342 Newsletter

Charter Union Meeting

November 9th
American Legion Post
533 Amherst St.
Buffalo NY

**10:00 AM and
7:30 PM**

Agenda

Regular order of
business



President's Perspective

By: Vincent G. Crehan—President/Business Agent

It's the Halloween season. In my opinion, this should be NFTA's holiday. You know, it's a holiday that people pretend to be people or other things they are not. Most (not all) of the smoke and mirrors happen at the NFTA Board of Commissioners meeting.

The last meeting was a good example. Dave State is their top lawyer. Part of his job is to inform the Commissioners of legal issues that may arise. Well, this month, the board room was filled to capacity. So full, people were turned away at the elevators on the first floor. When I

brought this to the Board's attention and suggested we meet in a bigger room, I was met with resistance. Their top lawyer gave me his top legal opinion. He said "well it doesn't happen often!!" Let me tell you like I told him. This is the second time in the last 6 months. He and Kim Minkel said it's taped and put on the internet. Hello! Some people don't have access to the internet and it's a public meeting. Go rent another room (they used the excuse that it's the biggest room they have) to ensure no-

body is turned away. Is it an inconvenience to them? Maybe, but turning away anyone who wants to attend the meeting is a crime. Maybe Dave State should concentrate on giving sound legal advice instead of just defending his boss, Kim Minkel.

Next deception was the hiring update of Karen Novo. She reports there are 12 new drivers starting class on 10/31/16. This is true, but as Paul Harvey used to say "here's the rest of the story". We've had a new driver either get fired or quit every month since May with the exception of August. Add in the

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drivers who retired or are going to retire and it's not the same picture Karen Novo is painting for the Commissioners. Well, Sooner than later the real true picture will prevail. Why? Simply put, they won't be able to hide or "get along" with the shortage of man power.

Years ago we had complaints with the company and that has not changed. However, years ago the company would be willing to settle issues, to make it a better workplace for all their employ-

ees. I used to have heated discussions with the former Director of Transportation, Walt Zmuda, but at the end of the day, we still worked to resolve problems. The current Transportation Director, Tom George? No way! He praises his workers, but they are just words. I called him on Friday, October 28, 2016 on an important issue. A third call was attempted the following Monday. He was unavailable. Today is now Thursday, November 3, 2016 and he never re-

turned my call. So what does senior management do? Kick the can down the road and hope they are not put in the spotlight. What a pity.

Drive safe and Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family!



A Message From Kathryn Ehrig Financial Secretary/Treasurer



Income from the vending machines is still down. If you have any problems with the food or the machines please let your Executive Board or Steward at your location know or call the union office at 825-9217. Remember we use the money earned to pay for cable at the locations. We were told they were going to upgrade the machines with card readers.

Look for your ballots for our local elections. They will be mailed out on No-

vember 15, 2016. If you don't receive the ballots contact the union office immediately. We can verify your address and send replacement ballots.

The company mentioned they have settled 17 contracts at the last Board meeting and not the ATU (their largest union). The International sent two representatives to meet with the company several times. Even during the convention the International reps drove from Toronto to meet with the company. They came

out empty handed again. You think by now this would be top priority on the company's list of things to do.

2016 is quickly coming to a close. At this time I would like to thank all of you for your support through the years. It has been a pleasure serving this membership for 23 years as an Executive Board member, Delegate to the convention and as your Financial Secretary/ Treasurer. I hope you remain 'One ATU' strong.

Metro Anniversaries

Andrew, Phillip	12	Hill, Damara	1	Rivera, Mark	2
Armster, Robert	32	Jasen Jr, Mark	7	Rivera Jr, Miguel	32
Baczkowski, Eugene	29	Johnson, Jennifer	12	Rizzo, Kristine	2
Baldwin, Shafina	12	Jones, Edwin	12	Rogalski, Joseph	32
Balistieri, James	29	Joyce, Michael	15	Seay, Tommy	31
Barnes, George	32	Kanalley, James	10	Shaver, Rosiland	11
Baylor, Stephania	15	Kuszniaj, Stanley	1	Siegel, Robert	6
Becker, Harold	9	Lee, Barbara	15	Simpson, Justin	3
Benton, Vincent	12	Leone, Vincent	32	Smith, Chequita	2
Bonnas, Steven	3	Lloyd, Thomas	7	Smithers, Jonathan	3
Boykin, Kenneth	2	Loughrey, Mark	13	Thompson, Samuel	11
Brooks, Marquits	1	Lukasik, Richard	32	Todd, Kayla	1
Camillo, David	7	Mack, Sharon	7	Trotta, Thomas	9
Coleman, Chalise	2	Majewicz, Mark	6	Verse, Antonia	2
Coleman, Jasmine	1	Malvestuto, Karen	2	Wainwright, Raymond	13
Cremen, Donald	11	Maple Jr, Willie	12	Warren, Jason	2
Davila, Robert	2	Marrero, Joseph	9	Weisbeck, William	32
Dixon, Antonio	15	McMenamin, Richard	31	Williams, Serena	2
Ernst, Michael	2	Meadows, Noel	13	Winegarten, Robert	10
Fiorella, Daniel	32	Montanari, Vincent	8	Winkler, Mark	32
Foster, Vernice	12	Moody, Mark	29	Wojciechowski, Max	5
Gerrity, Thomas	29	Mulzac, Michael	1	Wrobel, Michael	2
Giza, Ronald	32	Nervo, Gary	29		
Haniszewski, Michael	1	Parker, Mark	11		
Hawke, Frederick	6	Prewitt, Marilyn	7		
Heil, Douglas	31	Pygon, Charles	1		
Hernandez, David	6	Reile, Peter	1		

Retired in November

John Dilivio

Demetrious Perez



Alford, Ruthetta
 Ali, Muhammad
 Alls, Charmaine
 Apa, Jay
 Barry, James
 Becker, Harold
 Berry, Destry
 Bowes, James
 Brach, Albert
 Broderick, John
 Calandra, Thomas
 Carr, Milan
 Caruana, Angelo
 Celenza, John
 Clark, Randall
 Clemons, Jerome
 Clifford, Paul
 Coakley, Michael
 Cole, Albert
 Corbin, Kenneth

Cornelius, James
 Cunningham, Robert
 Evans, Demetrius
 Frazier, Dawn
 Frings, Heinz
 Froelich, Robert
 Fuller, Robert
 Gibson, Charles
 Giza, Ronald
 Goldsmith, Butch
 Hatten, Joyce
 Hernandez, David
 Herrera, Hector
 Hoffarth, Lucas
 Hoffman, Kevin
 Hourihan Terrence
 Houston, Rodric
 Huffnagle, Dean
 Johnson, Anita

Kalstek, Frank
 Kielaszek, Michael
 Korodi, Stephen
 Kozak, Bernice
 Lawrence, Calvin
 Mack, Sharon
 Malczewski, Wayne
 Malvestuto, Karen
 McDaniel, Verdrey
 McKnight, Rhonda
 Mingo, Eric
 Paddock, Jonathan
 Palermo, Jacqueline
 Paliwodzinski, Patrick
 Paulk, Michael
 Peay, Antwan
 Perkins Jr, Hugh
 Perry, Anderson

Pieszala, Eric
 Ratka, Joseph
 Rizzo, Kristine
 Ross, Gayla
 Schlueter, George
 Schnettler, Gregory
 Smith, Chequita
 Soltis, Duane
 Taylor, Raymond
 Ternullo, Charlene
 Tymorek, Darlene
 Universal, Anthony
 Vega, Miguel
 Wachter, Thomas
 Warren, Denise
 Wengewicz, Mark
 Wilkes, Toni
 Williams, Susie
 Young, Chyla

UNION MEETINGS AND RIDER BLITZ

Don't forget to come to this month's union meetings!

When: Wednesday 11/9 at 10:00AM and 7:30PM

Where: American Legion Post at 533 Amherst St. Buffalo, NY



Also on Wednesday the 9th, the Buffalo Transit Riders Union (BTRU) is having its first campaign blitz engaging riders on how to improve transit for everyone – including the workers. ATU members must be involved in order for riders to know the real reasons their buses never show up!

When: Wednesday 11/9 from 1:00PM to 5:00PM

Where: The starting point at the Buffalo Employment and Training Center
 (77 Goodell St, Buffalo, NY)