

TWU

The Transport Workers
Union of America
United Invincible

Express

twu.org

September/October 2009

Vol. 61 | No. 5

BUILDING ON OUR
LEGACY
75 YEARS OF MOVING
AMERICA

23rd CONVENTION
ELECTS
LITTLE'S TEAM
to continue their vision

workshop
REPORTS
from
CONVENTION

celebration
of **QUILL**
THE MAN

VEGAS
RALLY
to support our
DEALERS



➔
**NEWLY
ELECTED**

*leadership looks
to the future*

CONTINUING *the vision*



by International
President
James C. Little

I am invigorated by the opportunity to serve the Transport Workers Union for the next four years, and thank the 23rd Convention delegates for their hard work at this year's Convention and for electing my team and me to office.

Nothing compares to the unique opportunity to hear from hundreds of members during the Convention on issues that concern our locals, our union, our nation and the daily lives of members. Based on the enthusiasm and discussions with many of the delegates, we are apparently on the right track with our redevelopment of the organization, which has been driven by strategic planning over the last three years. This is great news to hear.

OUR UNION HAS A
BRIGHT FUTURE
AND WILL ALWAYS STRIVE FOR THE BEST.

The union can now move forward standing on the firm ground that we have been creating together for the last three years that I have served as President. With strategic planning, I am quite fortunate to work with experienced and dedicated colleagues from across our Divisions. Their mixed backgrounds and expertise in a wide-range of areas allows us to debate the issues from different angles, but still create successful plans.

As I stated at the convention, I take my responsibility very seriously. I want our union to be transparent in what it does, fully accountable, efficient and creative. I want to continue the vision that our team at the International, our local officers and our members have been a part of for the

last few years by strengthening the union in a number of areas. Over the last few years we've already had a number of successful organizational changes that have made me proud, mostly the enhancing of our services to Locals, increased training and internal growth. We will continue all current department changes, with some refinements where needed; to expand our grassroots program and statewide conferences; and to enhance our communications through online social networking and by utilizing the most current technological and communication tools.

We have a very aggressive legislative agenda that we will maintain and strengthen in Washington D.C. in order to assure our members' voices are heard and their families and jobs are protected. One of the issues that the Department of Legislative and Political Affairs has been fighting for is a health care plan that will provide quality and affordable care for all Americans. I encourage all members to participate in a national call-in day on November 5 to demand urgent action from Congress. Visit twu.org for more information.

At the Convention, we explored the pressing issues our country faces today and what the current economic and political situation means for our members. With the delegates' adoption of dozens of resolutions we have committed to tackle some of the country's biggest problems to the benefit of our members, from demanding accountability for the economy to working towards energy efficiency. These are no easy tasks, but I am confident that the TWU, continuing our vision, will accomplish these goals. Our union has a bright future and will always strive for the best for our members and working families everywhere.



Little Elected at 23rd Constitutional Convention

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Int'l officers, IEC, IEB and Int'l VPs elected
at the 23rd Constitutional Convention.

page 8-9: Resolutions adopted to move TWU forward.

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President's
Column

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Secretary
Treasurer's
Column



Celebrating 75: Quill, the Man;
Local 512 Picnic Sets Example;
Local 502 Member Elected to
City Council; Labor Day

16 | Union Privilege Scholarship Winners

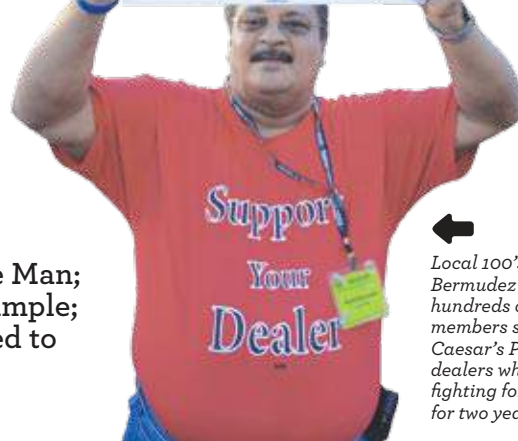
Five TWU family members receive
scholarships to continue their education.

20 | Beech Grove Revival

Stimulus funds give new life to Amtrak
Maintenance Facility.



International
President James
C. Little (middle),
Executive Vice
President Harry
Lombardo (right)
and Secretary-
Treasurer Joseph
C. Gordon moments
after their election at the
Convention.



Local 100's Richie
Bermudez and
hundreds of TWU
members supported
Caesar's Palace
dealers who have been
fighting for a contract
for two years, too long!

Cover photo by Tom Matthews

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA, AFL-CIO

Published bimonthly by the Transport Workers Union of America

1700 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10019 Phone: (212) 259-4900 — ISSN 0039-8659

Annual subscription price \$2.00 per year. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to TWU EXPRESS, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019

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Page One Photography, Nancy Rokos Photography, TWU Media Representative Angela Tucker



® GCU 1220M

UNITY *in the face of adversity*

Darrin Pierce Explains the Meaning of "United, Invincible"

Darrin Pierce, President of Local 513, experienced the power of unity under circumstances that most others will never be forced to endure. As a victim of 2005's Hurricane Katrina, Pierce and his family lost everything — they lost loved ones, their home and everything else they'd worked for their whole lives — and they suffered through the devastation of their native city of New Orleans.

On opening day of the Convention Pierce gave a touching address explaining his experience post-Katrina and how the power of unity, faith and strength were able to turn his "loss into a victory." "The reason I believe my story is important and should be told is because we are living in extremely difficult times, and I believe and I hope that my experience will be an inspiration to others," said Pierce in his address.

Katrina flooded 80 percent of New Orleans which shut down the city for weeks and eliminated the jobs of Pierce and other TWU members at Louis Armstrong International Airport. In the midst of the trauma, Pierce still made it to TWU's 22nd Constitutional Convention, only three weeks after the storm, and found support and care in his union brothers and sisters.

"The same way that unity brought strength to us as a family (during the hard times four years ago)," Pierce told the 23rd Convention this September, "so did my membership in the TWU empower me in my determination to make the very best of a bad situation."

Pierce and his family now live in Texas and he proudly leads one of the biggest ATD locals, Local 513. Towards the end of his speech Pierce passionately declared that his



union family's support during his tribulation post-Katrina confirmed for him his conviction that "the Transport Workers Union of America is the greatest union in the world."

Watch the whole speech at twu.org/Convention.

TWU COPE

seeks a better life for our members and our families and COPE dollars support political education and action that helps to ensure the best for working families. At this year's Convention the following members went above and beyond with their COPE contributions and exceeded the highest COPE Club level.

DON SHIPMAN
Shop Steward, Local 556
Airline Division

THOM MCDANIEL
President, Local 556
Airline Division

SHARON POLK
Recording Secretary, Local 502
Airline Division

RICHIE ADAMS
President, Local 1460
Railroad Division

TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA, AFL-CIO

JAMES C. LITTLE International President

HARRY LOMBARDO

Int'l Executive Vice President

JOSEPH C. GORDON Int'l Secretary-Treasurer

HUBERT SNEAD Administrative Vice President

SUSAN RESCH Administrative Vice President

JEFFREY L. BROOKS SR.

Administrative Assistant to the Int'l President

MICHAEL J. QUILL Int'l President, 1934-1966

SONNY HALL Int'l President Emeritus

MICHAEL O'BRIEN Int'l President Emeritus

INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS 1700 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10019

John W. Bland

Jeffrey L. Brooks Sr.

John Conley

Garry Drummond

J.W. Johnson

Steve Luis

Thom McDaniel

Gary Maslanka

Barry Roberts

Marsha Spinowitz

Curtis Tate

Roger Toussaint

James Whalen

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORS

Tonya Gordon Managing Director of Organizational Development

John Conley Director of Air Transport Division

Gary Maslanka Director of Railroad Division

Susan Resch Director of Transit, Utility, University and Services Division

Joe Carbon Director of Gaming Division

Sandra Burleson Director of Civil and Human Rights and Working Women's Committees

Elizabeth Giegerich Director of Communications

Frank McCann Director of Organizing

David Moses Director of Information Technology

Hubert Snead Director of COPE and Field Support

Roger Toussaint Director of Strategic Planning

Ed Watt Director of Health and Safety

Robert Wechsler Director of Education and Research

Portia Reddick White Director of Legislative and Political Affairs

CELEBRATING *TWU's 75-year legacy*

The TWU 23rd Convention serendipitously coincided with the 75th Anniversary of the union's founding. Thanks to many locals' contributions to the Michael J. Quill Memorial Fund the TWU threw a celebration fit for the quality of man who founded the union.

The "Quill Celebration" began during the afternoon session of opening day with the powerful sounds of MaBSTOA's bagpipe and drum band marching down the center aisle of the Convention Hall. After standing to get a glimpse of the excitement delegates settled back into their seats for a viewing of a commemorative video

on Quill. The audacious Quill was TWU's first International President, serving from 1934 to 1966 when he died of heart disease just days after the successful completion of the first city-wide transit strike in New York City history. *You can view the video and read more about Quill on www.twu.org/Convention and on page 18.*

In Quill's honor, a portion of the Quill Memorial Fund was donated to Kerry Parents and Friends Association in Killarney, Co. Kerry, Ireland, which supports families of people with intellectual disabilities. The TWU first established a connection with the organization twenty years ago and has now reconnected with this donation which enabled the Association to dedicate a therapy room in Quill's honor. The facility is located in the same Irish county in which Quill was born. Tony Darmody, the Association's director, gave a heartfelt presentation which incorporated photos of the beautiful Irish facility to the delegates.



→
Sculptor Brian Hanlon created the Quill statue revealed at the celebration.

←
Tony Darmody (second from right), Director of Kerry Association, receives a plaque for the Michael J. Quill room donated to the Association in Quill's honor.

Here is the list of Locals who contributed to the Michael J. Quill Memorial Fund (*the asterisk (*) indicates that the local donated a minimum of one dollar per member*)

*1	*264	516	574
*100	265	*521	*575
101	266	525	*576
106	267	*526	*590
171	268	*527	*1460
200	*269	529	2001
208	276	*530	*2003
212	279	540	*2005
*223	*282	*541	*2008
*225	*289	*542	*2009
*225-4	*290	543	*2011
*226	*291	545	2013
*227	295	*555	2014
*229	299	556	*2015
*234	*700	561	*2016
*239	*1400	*562	*2017
*241	500	563	*2019
248	501	*564	*2020
*249	*502	565	2022
250-A	504	567	2025
*252	505	568	*2035
258	*507	569	*2037
*259	*510	*570	*2051
260	*512	571	2053
261	*513	572	*2054
262	*514	573	*2055

The celebration ended with an eye-catching blast of smoke towards the front of the room which, when settled, revealed an incredible life-size sculpture of Michael J. Quill.

All locals who donated a minimum of one dollar per member to the Fund received display-size Quill sculptures and each delegate received a small Quill sculpture to take home.





convention elects LITTLE'S TEAM

CONTINUING THE VISION

A roar of excitement emanated from the large Convention Hall in Las Vegas' Rio Hotel on September 16, 2009, the third day of the Transport Workers Union's 23rd Constitutional Convention. Just after noon, as the last member of President James C. Little's slate of officers was elected, delegates stood to applaud the reaffirmed leadership team elected to move the union forward for another four years.

Delegates overwhelmingly supported the election of Little's slate put forward by the Nominating Committee: President James C. Little, Executive Vice President Harry Lombardo, Secretary-Treasurer Joseph C. Gordon, and International Administrative Vice Presidents Hubert Snead and Susan Resch. The 13 new International Vice Presidents and 40 new Executive Council and Board members were also elected. See pages 12-13 for a full list and photo of the new IEC & B members.

A total of 353 delegates and alternates attended the International Convention, which is the supreme authority of the TWU

DELEGATION COUNT

Delegate totals showed 199 from the Transit, Utility, University and Services Division, 123 from the Air Transport Division and 31 from the Railroad Division, with 46 alternates and scores of guests also in attendance.

and happens every four years.

This year's Convention was based upon a look to a bright TWU future and an acknowledgment of a proud TWU past, with the theme of the event "Building On Our Legacy." While all resolutions dealt with important industry and national issues such as transportation funding, overtime protections, foreign maintenance and social security, three main resolutions shaped the focus of the Convention: "A Strong Economy that

Works for All Americans," "Global Warming, Energy Independence and Mass Transportation," and "Strengthen Civil Rights, Union Rights and Diversity."

Behind the top officers seated on a dais outlined in TWU blue and gold, thirty different brightly lit and larger-than-life photo displays of members at work served as backdrops for the event. In celebration of the union's 75th Anniversary an elaborate shadow box filled with TWU photographs, articles, and artifacts, some dated all the way back to 1934, sat to the right of the stage to provide delegates a way to explore a tangible form of our legacy. *You can view a photo of the shadow box and even purchase a poster of the item at shoptwu.com.*

Opening day began with a color guard from a local Las Vegas school and an inspirational performance of the "Star Spangled Banner" by Portia Reddick White, Director of the Department of Legislative and Political Affairs. Kanie Kastroll, the president of the Gaming Division's Local 721, welcomed her sisters and brothers to Las Vegas with an enthusiastic speech and an expression of



gratitude for the union's much-needed help organizing casino dealers.

After lively discussion of ten different resolutions, most of which were related to some aspect of the economy and all of which were passed, the last two hours of opening day were dedicated to a celebration of the union's 75th Anniversary. *Read more about the Quill Celebration on page 5.*

The majority of the four-day long event was dedicated to resolutions, feature videos, speakers, Constitutional amendments and committee reports, but several special events broke up each day. On Tuesday, September 15, the general session ended early to allow delegates to attend one of four workshops designed to encourage communication, organizing and information sharing between divisions, locals and the International. More than 60 percent of the delegates participated which resulted in about 50 delegates per workshop, all of which were well received and successful. *Read more about the workshops and the concluding reports on pages 14-15.*

Wednesday, Sept. 16, was packed with excitement. Keynote speaker Willie Brown, former Mayor of San Francisco, kicked off the day's events with an inspirational speech about civil, human and workers' rights, appropriate for the day's theme. *See page 15 for more on Brown's address.*

During the Convention session delegates heard several intriguing and informative addresses from speakers including

the President of the Transportation Trades Department Ed Wytkind, President of Union Privilege Leslie Tolf, National Mediation Board Member Harry Hoglander, President of the Apollo Alliance Jerome Ringo, and more. *Find the full list in the program on twu.org/Convention.* Speakers addressed issues important to the TWU like transportation funding, health care, operating assistance, foreign maintenance and solidarity.

Other greetings arrived as specially prepared videos from Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, U.S. Representative Dina Titus and AFL-CIO leaders: then President John Sweeny, newly elected President Richard Trumka and Executive Vice President Arlene Holt Baker. President Barack Obama sent a letter to the Convention emphasizing the importance of America's middle class and his commitment to working families.

Video presentations that set the stage for specific resolutions were shown over the four-day period. They featured: Corporate Campaigns; Working Women's Committee; Community Service; Retirees; Veterans; Legislative and Political Action; Civil, Human and Workers' Rights, and a special video in memoriam of recently deceased officers.

Clockwise from top left: Local 100 delegation, Local 556 delegation, Local 721 President Kanie Kastroll, Railroad Division delegation, Director of DLPA Portia Reddick White sings the National Anthem, Local 250-A delegation. Opposite: President James C. Little addresses delegates from the podium.

PRESIDENT LITTLE CONTINUES TO HELP TWU EVOLVE

"We must keep reinventing ourselves," said President Little in his acceptance speech. "I firmly believe that the labor movement and our union in general must continue to evolve or we will dissolve."

Little has served as President of the TWU for the last three years and has helped move the Union forward during our country's recent uncertain times. In that time, Little and his top officers have strengthened TWU's presence in Washington D.C. and become a louder voice in the Labor Movement on issues such as the Employee Free Choice Act and other issues important to working Americans. *Read more about the reaffirmed leadership's plans for the next four years in President Little's column on page 2.*

Little concluded his speech on an important note. "Standing on the strong legacy of honor and determination that Michael Quill created we have an important future to build for our members, for the union as a whole and for the labor movement. I thank you all, I thank God and God bless you all and TWU," said Little.



RESOLUTIONS: *a core component of the convention*

Some are specific to TWU and its industries. Others deal with areas of concern to all Americans. Most are written in flowery language and contain high-minded calls to action.

But the dozens of resolutions acted on at the 23rd Constitutional Convention in September are no mere window dressing: They are the core of the proceedings and the way delegates chart the union's course over the next four years.

➔
**D'ANN
JOHNSON**

of Local 514 was
one of many who
spoke from the
Convention floor.



Resolutions are based on membership feedback and are prepared months in advance by Local Executive Boards, who create their own resolutions and review members' submissions for approval, and by the International Union. A meeting of the International Executive Council & Board the week before the Convention was largely devoted to reviewing the resolutions, many of which were modified or rewritten.

Resolutions from the Locals — “Timely Resolutions” — can be accepted and assigned a number, rejected or incorporated into other resolutions. Resolutions may also be introduced or amended from the floor. Delegates who feel strongly about an issue often support the resolution with comments from the floor. Local 514 member Jenni-

Proctor Timms, a current military member in the Air National Guard, spoke briefly and emotionally on Resolution 18, “Support Our Troops.” She persuaded locals that have not yet formed Veterans Committees to consider the help the Committees could provide and the pain they could help alleviate for military members and veterans. *See Jenni-Proctor Timms’ comments on the Support Our Troops resolution on twu.org/Convention.*

The IEC&B also reviews amendments to the TWU Constitution. This year, six amendments were referred favorably to the Convention’s Constitution Committee and all were subsequently approved by delegates.

Delegates passed 29 resolutions, voting to refer the remaining 11 resolutions to the incoming IEC&B. That body will meet at the beginning of next year. *The full texts of all*

accepted resolutions are available on twu.org/convention.

Appropriately, Resolution 1, “A Strong Economy that Works for All Americans,” dealt with the economy, urging the President and Congress to be mindful of the needs of working families when rebuilding our shattered financial institutions. The resolution also called for a second stimulus package. Other resolutions covered on the first day of the Convention — Health Care Reform, Outsourced Aircraft Maintenance, Raise Minimum Wage, and others — reflected the day’s theme which was focused on our country’s current economic situation and what it means for our union and members. Resolutions 2 and 3 set the tone for the second and third day’s themes, Global Warming, Energy Independence and Mass Transportation; and

Strengthen Civil Rights, Union Rights and Diversity, respectively.

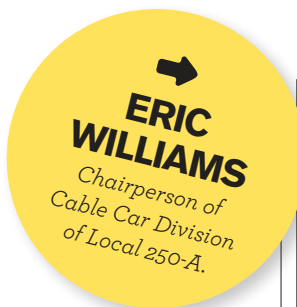
Resolution 32, "Strategic Planning for a Strong TWU," was a key resolution related directly to TWU. Delegates urged that the union continue to build on the strategic planning initiative begun by President James C. Little after the last Convention, saying, "Strategic Planning provides a critical foundation for charting the course for rapid and sustained organizational growth and power." The resolution also called on locals to participate in the process and adopt their own strategic planning where needed.

Many resolutions dealt with workplace issues, such as health and safety on the job, pension protection, outsourcing of jobs, protecting transportation workers from security threats, civil service reform and protection, stopping privatization and the Family and Medical Leave Act. Resolution 12 commended President Obama for expanding the

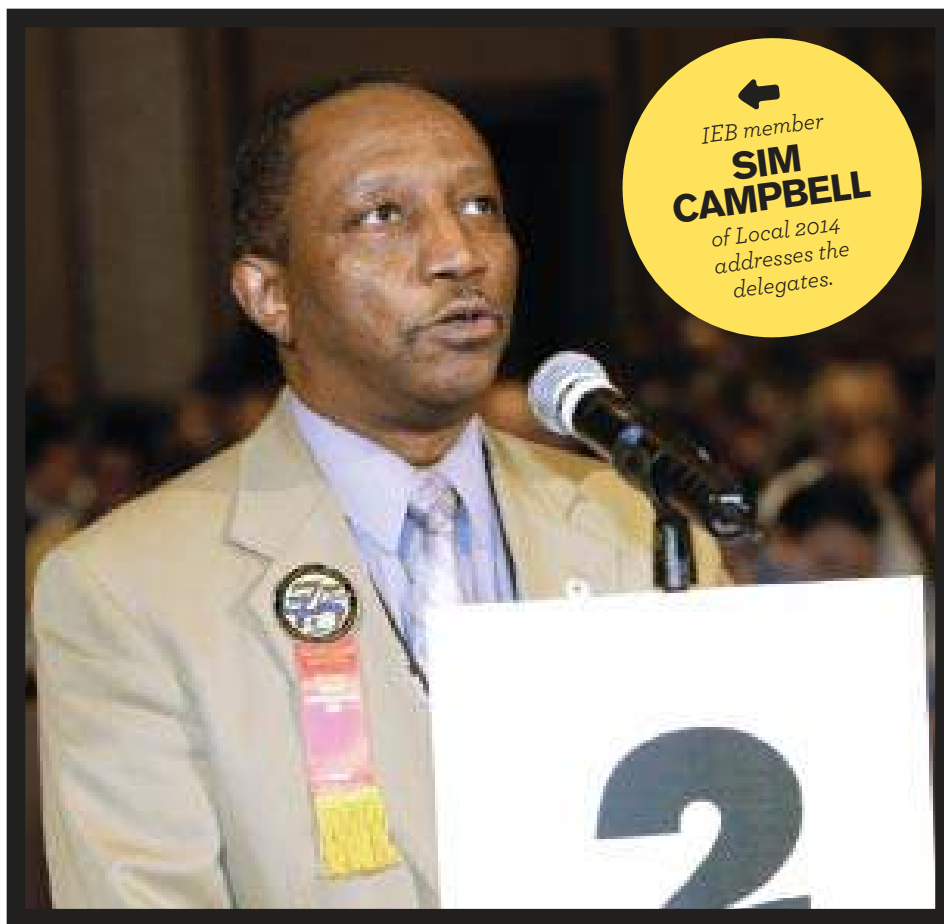
Service Contract Act and other labor protections, while Resolution 33 praised the President for creating the White House Task Force on Middle Class Working Families.

Several resolutions dealt with specific issues in each transportation mode. Resolution 10 called for holding foreign aircraft repair stations to the same standards imposed on domestic facilities. Resolution 31 called for support of passenger rail, including "sufficient operating and capital funding for Amtrak." Resolution 36 pledged TWU to fight for restoration of federal transit operating assistance to the Highway-Transit Bill and the implementation of HR 2746 to stop service cuts, layoffs and fare hikes.

Because much of the union's agenda requires legislative action, delegates passed Resolution 24 urging TWU to continue to foster the legislative and political activism



Resolution 1 ... urged the President and Congress to be mindful of the needs of working families when rebuilding our shattered financial institutions.



of members, including registration drives, increased COPE contributions, training for grass roots activists and encouraging members to run for office.

The need to organize was the theme of several resolutions, including one calling for the passage of the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA). Resolution 20 called for a union-wide Volunteer Member Organizing (VMO) program to take advantage of opportunities presented by the enactment of EFCA. It also called for strengthening ties with unions overseas who deal with the same multi-national employers.

Delegates also recommitted the union to strong support for civil and human rights, including pay equity and racial, ethnic and gender diversity in the labor movement.

INTERNATIONAL *staff retire at convention*

International Vice President for Legislative and Governmental Affairs Roger Tauss, and Administrative Assistant to the Int'l President Michael Bakalo, could tell you just about anything there is to know about the TWU. Bakalo and Tauss have worked hard in specialized areas within the TWU for decades and announced at the 23rd Convention that they were officially retiring. President Little honored Tauss and Bakalo at an evening event on September 14, thanking them for their service and wishing them the best in their retirement.

INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT FOR LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS ROGER TAUSS RETIRES

Roger Tauss became a bus driver for SEPTA in Philadelphia 34 years ago and began his union career by winning an election as Section Chair in 1980. He served as strike coordinator in the 1981 nineteen-day strike building coalitions with community groups and using innovative tactics that shut down rail and New Jersey Transit service. He was elected president of Local 234 in 1984 in a three-way race garnering 63 percent of the vote.

During his nine years as Local 234 president, Tauss worked with local politicians and management to win major contract gains for members and increased the safety of the SEPTA subway system.

In 1993, after four years as an International Representative working in the Transit Division, Tauss was sent to Washington, DC to set up a legislative office, where he laid the foundation for TWU's renewed presence on Capitol Hill.

As Legislative and Political Director of TWU Tauss was instrumental in a number of major labor efforts including protecting 13(c) transit labor protections; preserving rail FELA and rail labor pensions; protecting American Airline pensions; and advancing the fight for a level playing field with foreign aircraft maintenance. He created the TWU Grassroots program that trained and placed TWU local activists in major local, state, and national political campaigns. Additionally, he engineered an internship program in the Washington office that resulted in an expansion of the number of TWU political activists and staff. Tauss was responsible

for the early TWU endorsement of Barack Obama as the candidate for President in the Democratic primaries and then went on to recruit 64 members to work as full-time volunteers in the campaign.

Tauss is a member of the AFL-CIO's National Legislative Committee and their National Political Committee. He was Vice president of the Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor and Vice President of the Philadelphia Central Labor Council. He earned a Bachelor of Science in 1964 in Economics at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School and attended graduate school at Northwestern.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE INT'L PRESIDENT MICHAEL BAKALO RETIRES

Mike Bakalo has served in various capacities in the International and in local union office for the last 50 years. At the Convention, Bakalo retired from his position as Administrative Assistant to the Int'l President and Chair of the Int'l Committee on Appeals.

Bakalo joined the TWU Local 504 in 1959 after being hired as an aircraft mechanic by Pan American World Airways. Five years later he was elected shop steward for that Local at Kennedy Airport in New York and became senior steward two years later. In 1969, Local 504 members elected Bakalo Vice Chair of the local's largest section and in 1973 he was elected Chair. He held that post until 1979, when he was put on special assignment as an organizer by the International union.

The following year Bakalo became a full-time International Representative working out of TWU's Air Transport Division, which represents more than 40,000 airline and aerospace workers across the nation. In 1983, Bakalo was elected an International Vice president and named to the International Executive Council. He was elected an Administrative VP at the 2005 Convention.

Throughout his career, Bakalo assisted in the administration of ATD overseeing the drafting and negotiation of major contracts, handling grievances and system board arbitrations and conducting organizing drives. He was coordinator for the Pan Am System Board of Adjustment for many years as well as chair of the Pan Am President's Council. Bakalo represented TWU on a joint committee of cooperation with Pan Am's four other contracted unions, the Airline pilots, Teamsters, Flight Engineers and Flight Attendants.

Subsequently, Bakalo handled the Division's contracts with many of TWU's US Airways groups such as the Flight Instructors, Simulator Engineers and Flight Dispatchers as well as many of the union's Flight Dispatch groups. He also worked with the former Eastern Airlines Flight Attendants when the company was purchased by Donald Trump.



← TWU top officers thanked Bakalo and Tauss for their years of dedicated service. From left to right: the new Administrative Assistant to the Int'l President, Jeff Brooks; Administrative VP Hubert Snead, Secretary-Treasurer Joseph C. Gordon, Administrative VP Susan Resch, Roger Tauss, Mike Bakalo, President James C. Little, Executive VP Harry Lombardo.



VEGAS RALLY TO SUPPORT DEALERS

The 23rd Convention adjourned at 3:30 p.m. on September 17, but the excitement was not yet over. Immediately after the session ended hundreds of delegates and their guests, and Int'l TWU officers and staff boarded buses to go "support their dealers" at Caesar's Palace.

In 100 degree heat, they energetically showed their ongoing support for struggling Caesar's dealers by marching up and down E. Flamingo and Las Vegas Blvds in front of Caesar's chanting "No Contract, No Peace," as Harrah's executives looked on.

Dealers at Caesar's Palace voted in December of 2007 by a 3 to 1 margin to be represented by Local 721 of the Gaming Division of the TWU, but have been unable to bring long negotiations to a conclusion with a contract. After engaging in anti-union election tactics in 2007, Harrah's Entertainment, the parent company of Caesar's Palace, has stalled contract negotiations for its 600 dealers for nearly two years.

"They're not asking for big raises, they're not asking for an increase in their pension," said Shane Kaufmann, a Caesar's dealer involved with negotiations. "We just want the status quo and the right to have union representation."

"These dealers deserve a fair contract," said Joe Carbon, director of TWU's Gaming Division. Speaking of the Employee Free Choice Act, Kanie Kastroll, a Wynn dealer and acting president of Local 721, added, "it shouldn't take a federal law to get a fair contract."

Read more about the rally and watch a video from the event on twu.org/Convention, and visit twu.org/flickr for rally photos.

Left, from top to bottom: A snapshot of only a fraction of TWU participants; A collection of pins supporting the cause; Acting Local 721 President Kanie Kastroll explains the dealers' plight to the press. Right, from top to bottom: Int'l Lead Organizer Georges Exceus. Administrative VP Susan Resch, Administrative Assistant to the Int'l President Jeff Brooks and Int'l Administrative Secretary Tiffany Walters; Int'l President James C. Little addresses the rally, ATD Asst. Director Bobby Gless (right) demonstrates.



TWU'S NEW INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND BOARD

The International Union's newly elected Executive Council and Board are shown here after the election on September 16, 2009 by delegates to the 23rd Constitutional Convention. ➡

OFFICERS

James C. Little – President

Harry Lombardo – International Executive Vice President

Joseph C. Gordon – International Secretary-Treasurer

Hubert Snead – Administrative Vice President

Susan Resch – Administrative Vice President

VICE PRESIDENTS

John Bland

Jeff Brooks

John Conley

Gary Drummond

J.W. Johnson

Steve Luis

Gary Maslanka

Thom McDaniel

Barry Roberts

Marsha Spinowitz

Curtis Tate

Roger Toussaint

James Whalen

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Richie Adams

Richie Boehm

Pat Bowden

Willie Brown

Chuck Cerf

Brian Clarke

Carl Martin

Gary Shults

Ed Watt

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Gordon Clark

Sean Doyle

John Feltz

Fred Fink

Steve Gilboy

David Gollinger

Alice Goodman

Jimmy Guido

Jerome Lafragola

Tom Lee

Tom Lenane

Charles Little

Irwin Lum

Don May

Eddie McLeod

Benyoel Morgan

Carlos Padilla

Darrin Pierce

Andreeva Pinder

John Plowman

Portia Reddick White

Orton Reynolds

Dan Rivera

Nelson Rivera

Robert Romaine

Enzo Sinnona

Kevin Smith

Donny Tyndall

Dave Virella

Don Wright

Bob Zimmerman



THE NEWLY ELECTED

were celebrated with a performance by MaBSTOA's Pipe and Drum band.





CONVENTION WORKSHOPS

TWU took advantage of the mix of members from all divisions and locals and provided four different successful workshops for all to share insightful ideas and learn about the TWU and the Labor movement. The workshops were organized by attorney Mark Richard.

REPORT FROM THE POWER AND POLITICS OF FEDERAL LABOR AND TRANSPORTATION POLICY WORKSHOP

Speakers: James Corless, Campaign Director of Transportation for America
John Donnelly, Strategic Resources Director of the TWU

Current federal policy initiatives provide labor with its best opportunities in nearly a decade to positively impact our members and the constituents we serve. We must understand the power and politics of this struggle. At the conclusion of the workshop participants listed key areas on which the Labor Movement and the TWU need to focus.

- Reposition transportation as a powerful lobby at the state and federal levels: With hundreds of millions of dollars at stake in federal funding, transportation needs to have a seat at the table when decisions are made about how the money will be spent.
- Realign public perception of public transportation: Transportation in this country is the second largest emitter of green house gases. We must shift daily transportation towards clean, renewable energy and increase the public's use of public transportation in order to reduce car emissions and increase efficiency.
- Repair infrastructure and operating assistance: Stimulus funds allotted to our nation's infrastructure must be utilized for more than just roads and bridges. We need to use

this money for important improvements like robust walking and biking trails, links to public transportation for the suburbs. Funds need to include operating assistance as around the country fares have gone up but services like manned booths have been eliminated. Public transportation has to be convenient, safe and affordable.

REPORT FROM BUILDING THE UNION THROUGH COMMUNITY POWER WORKSHOP

Speakers: Leonard Lee, Deputy Director of Southern Region AFT-United Teachers of New Orleans

Sarita Gupta, Executive Director of Jobs with Justice

TWU's successful role in electing pro-labor candidates in the last election cycle compels us to maintain our leadership position in the community. Workshop participants recommended the following to be promoted by the TWU in its attempts to build the union through community power.

- Build networks of support within your community and create a foundation of support and sympathy for your cause. Organizing should be ongoing and external to TWU membership.
- Develop ongoing community service initiatives.
- Build solidarity and reciprocity.
- Become the voice of the people you serve and you will be served.
- In order to expand the union's reach local leaders in key community groups should utilize existing TWU committee resources such as the Veterans, Working Women's,

Civil and Human Rights and Health and Safety Committees. They should grow and strengthen our network of support by offering our services to the community at large and build the TWU brand.

REPORT FROM UNION BUILDING DURING AN ECONOMIC CRISIS WORKSHOP

Speakers: Andy Banks, Director, Campaigns unit; Deputy Director, Strategic Research and Campaigns Department, International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Lavonne Ritter, Commissioner, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service

This workshop focused on strategies and tactics available to build our locals during these challenging economic times.

Workshop discussion entailed:

- Positive public perception of unions increased year to year up until 2008 when positive perception dropped 20 percent. This portion of the discussion focused on the auto industry and specifically UAW.
- Unions have not relayed to the public as well as is necessary the benefits of belonging to a union, nor have they done a sufficient job at selling that reality to the public.
- Unions struggle fighting the media, which is often against unions, and the perceptions it reports and creates.
- The importance of differentiating between public and private sectors. Public sector consists of service riders and private sector consists of customers.
- The use of strikes as a tool. Is it our only one? Participants identified two critical gains that locals could make at the bargaining table during these tough economic times. These

were: Education and health care, jointly sponsored wellness programs, discipline committee for the union, re-education in unionism, strengthen non-economic articles in the contract, seat on the pension/401K/retirement board, strength in identity ability (buttons, pins, patches, etc.); strength in health and safety, campaign on differences of union to non-union in same job classification, one union philosophy.

REPORT: MOVING OUR UNION TOWARDS THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF TECHNOLOGICAL CAPACITY

Speakers: **Ethan Roeder**, Former Director of Data/Technology for the Obama Campaign, Director of Data and Technology at the New Organizing Institute

Jeff Rae, Assistant Director of Communications, TWU International

David Moses, Information Technology Director, TWU International

Union progress is now directly related to our ability to modernize our use of data and operate at the cutting edge of the electronic world. Participants emphasized several important points focused on improving TWU technology and utilizing social networking sites to connect locals to each other and to the public and to publicize TWU activities.

- Facebook and Twitter are now being used to publicize TWU activity and issues important to the Labor Movement and to connect members with each other. Members need to join the Transport Workers Union facebook group to stay connected and show we are 130,000 strong. *Join at twu.org/facebook.*
- The union needs to continue to keep up with cutting edge technology by using social networking, maintaining the look and features currently available on the new International website (videos, photos, links to stay connected) and staying abreast of the most recent trends in multimedia.
- The International and locals need to work together to increase the union's web presence and the International should continue to help locals develop their online presences.

WILLIE BROWN *at the convention*

Keynote Speech Hits All the Right Notes

Declaring that what happens to working people is more important than what happens to big corporations, former San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown set a populist tone in his keynote speech to the Convention on September 16.

A fixture in California politics for four decades, Brown was the powerful Speaker of the California Assembly before term limits forced him out in 1995. He then served as Mayor of San Francisco for eight years and remains a force in the state's public life.

A longtime friend of TWU, Brown has been a guest at TWU conventions and is known as an amusing speaker. He didn't disappoint. Part of his address to delegates was a riff on how he didn't give much of a chance to an unknown young man running for Senator of Illinois with a name like Barack Obama. He again underestimated Obama when he announced he was seeking the presidency against all the odds.

But Brown said delegates could learn from that as they seek to carry out the Convention's mandates in their own states. "If Barack Obama can have the limited success he has had at elevating an African-American to the presidency, we collectively, organized labor, can do the same," he said.

Noting that workers' ability to earn a decent living with dignity is the cornerstone of our democracy, Brown said, "Civil rights and human rights can only be achieved when we

have addressed workers' rights first."

But, he added that involvement in the political process was necessary to achieve labor's goals. If workers fight to make their votes count, Brown said, "gradually the labor movement will move from just workers' rights to civil rights and to human rights in an organized fashion."

The California firebrand took issue with some of the measures the government took to pull the country out of its economic tailspin, saying again that workers should have

come first by making job creation the first priority. "The recession cycle for us must be measured by how many people have jobs, not how many banks are still able to deny us loans, even though they have gotten bailed out," he said to much applause from the delegates.

Citing TWU's history as a militant

union unafraid to stand up for what's right, Brown said the powers that be never give up anything without a fight. "This nation has begrudgingly granted us the privilege to withhold our labor if we choose to do so collectively, but it's been only a grant of privilege by virtue of our assaulting the door," he said.

Because of TWU's stellar record on civil rights, Brown said he expects the union to be a leader in the coming battles to organize more workers. "It's no longer just about salaries and working conditions for your members. It's about all working people," he said. "I'm counting on you to bring dramatic change in your next 75 years."



Keynote speaker Willie Brown (middle), former Mayor of San Francisco, flanked by DLPA Director Portia Reddick White (right) and guest Larry Martin.



5 TWU FAMILY MEMBERS *win Union Plus scholarships*

AFL-CIO Program Helps Students Achieve Their Dreams

Five children or spouses of TWU members were awarded Union Plus Scholarships this year, an impressive performance by a union of TWU's size. The awards are in addition to the Michael J. Quill Scholarships and others funded by various TWU locals. (This year's Quill Winners were profiled in the last issue of the Express.)

In tough economic times, affording an education is harder than ever. To meet the growing need, Union Plus provided \$200,000 in scholarships to 133 students from 41 unions this year, including the five TWU winners.

"We understand what working families are facing," says Leslie Tolf, president of Union Privilege, the organization that provides an array of benefit programs for union families, including the scholarship program. "Many of this year's applicants made it clear that, without help from our scholarship program, they would have to put their dreams on hold or forget about college entirely."

Since starting the program in 1991, Union Plus has awarded \$2.8 million in educational funding to 1,813 union members, spouses and dependent children. This year more than 4,200 applications were received from students representing 49 states, Canada and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

THE 2009 TWU HONOREES

Christina Johnson – Local 100

Christina Johnson of New York, NY, whose father Kenneth Johnson is a member of Local 100, has been awarded a \$2,000 scholarship. Christina is quick to enumerate the life lessons she has learned from her father, a TWU member since the year she was born. "It's about turning out the light at the end of the day and knowing that our time was put to good use. It's about knowing that enjoyment comes from making sacrifices for things we believe in. And most importantly, it's about surrounding yourself with people who feel the same way." That could describe the family's relationship to their brothers and sisters in the union. "My father took his job so that I could have a better life." For Christina, that includes a future as a forensic pathologist, while still finding time to indulge her passion for the dramatic arts.

Debora Wallace-Wood – Local 208

Debora Wallace-Wood of Columbus, OH, whose spouse Steven Wood Sr. is a member of Local 208, has been awarded a \$750 scholarship. "I feel like a locomotive," Debora says, "ready to persevere and move forward at a steady and fast pace." She understands that

it's going to be a long journey. Debora, who has a strong track record working for charitable organizations, says her plan for further education and career has three phases, and right now she's still in Phase I. But she's working hard and she can see clearly ahead to the day, not too far in the future, when she receives a doctorate in education. "At that point my hopes, dreams and aspirations will be fulfilled," she says.

Travis Benaiges – Local 568

Travis Benaiges of Miami Lakes, FL, whose father Carlos Benaiges is a member of TWU Local 568, has been awarded a \$1,500 scholarship. "My parents made it," Travis says, and the term is rich with meaning. They made it to America from Cuba. They made it through persistent effort, hard work and sacrifice so that Travis could have the opportunities now before him. "I am so grateful to them for having fought for my future," he says. "I am so grateful this great nation has offered them a better life. I believe that if it weren't for unions, we wouldn't be standing where we are now." Travis knows that America, for all its opportunities, isn't perfect, so he's striving to make it better. He led a program that resulted in more than 33,000 service hours being contributed to environmental proj-

Left to right: Christina Johnson; Debora Wallace-Wood; Travis Benaiges; Lauren Gwinn; Virginia O'Leary receiving diploma from Randy Parker, president of Vance Granville Community College.

ects. And he dreams of becoming a lawyer, and then a politician, to be able to change people's lives for the better. Then, he'll know he's made it.

Lauren Gwinn – Local 568

Lauren Gwinn of Sarasota, FL, whose father Lawson Gwinn is a member of Local 568, has been awarded a \$3,000 scholarship. Lauren says her friends didn't quite grasp her enthusiasm about her visit to the county morgue. To them, it seemed like the last place in the world they would want to go. But for Lauren, who has a fascination with the human body, and whose visit to the morgue was part of a program sponsored by a local college of osteopathic medicine, it was the perfect opportunity to study human anatomy close up. As she graduates from high school, Lauren has the grades, the desire and the determination to become a doctor. But more than that, she has an understanding that being a great doctor is about more than pure science. "Doctors must possess

good character and moral integrity," she says. Lauren expresses thanks to TWU for helping make her dreams possible. "Thanks to the union, my father has had job security and that has allowed me to have an excellent education and a stable home life."

Virginia O'Leary – Local 569

Virginia O'Leary of Youngsville, NC, whose spouse Tod O'Leary is a member of Local 569, has been awarded a \$500 scholarship. "I am very thankful that my husband is a union member," Virginia says. "We have even marched together with his local during Solidarity Day events in Washington, D.C." For more than 25 years, as Tod and Virginia have raised their four children (ages 11 to 29), Tod's TWU wages and benefits have provided a solid foundation for their family. Now, with the children grown, Virginia is ready to build on that foundation and improve her own opportunities by becoming a nurse. She recently graduated as a Licensed Practical Nurse and

after fulfilling her work requirement, hopes to continue on to be a Registered Nurse.

APPLY FOR 2010 SCHOLARSHIPS

Please visit UnionPlus.org/Scholarships for information on eligibility and to apply for next year's scholarships. Recipients are selected based on academic ability, social awareness, financial need and appreciation of labor.

Union Privilege offers the Union Plus benefits, which help union members and their families save money. Union Privilege also provides the Union Safe benefits, which assist union members during difficult times. One of the newest benefits is the College Savings Grant, which helps to spur savings for a bright future by adding to participating members' contributions.

Other programs include mortgage and finance benefits, education and insurance benefits and even money-saving offers on health services and vacations. TWU members are eligible for most benefits. Visit UnionPlus.org to see which programs suit your needs.

TWU MEMBERS

play a valuable role in society, in the communities in which they live and in their families. They work hard in hundreds of different occupations in which they keep people safe, transport them on time, protect their belongings, maintain complicated equipment, serve children their lunches and take them to school, and the list goes on. Some members have gone above and beyond to serve their communities, help their union brothers and sisters, run important TWU committees, and dedicate decades of service to the union. At the Convention, President Little recognized these 19 members nominated by their local presidents or International staff for their outstanding service to the TWU. Each received a display-size Quill sculpture in recognition of their incredible dedication and achievements.



On the last day of the Convention President Little recognized Administrative secretary of the Railroad Division Fran Albach for her 57 years of service to the TWU. "I have tremendous honor and respect for this woman. She is certainly a person that we could not operate day-to-day without her cooperation and time. She truly serves the TWU," said President Little. Albach received a crystal Michael J. Quill award.

*** OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD WINNERS**

Anita Clinton – Local 100
 Julian Drayton – Local 100
 Rocky Graciano – Local 100
 Diane Nase – Local 225 Branch 4
 Irwin Lum – Local 250A
 Sandra Waddle – Local 260
 Sharon Polk – Local 502
 Dianna Tiggs – Local 512
 Tom Carlin – Local 513
 D'Ann Johnson – Local 514
 Teresa McMillen – Local 514
 Jenni Proctor-Timms – Local 514
 Mike Cernosek – Local 555
 Susan Kern – Local 556
 Sharon Riffle – Local 565
 Gary Moffitt – Local 567
 Tom Koster – Local 2001
 Tom Lutton – Local 2017
 Greg Petkosh – Local 2019



MICHAEL J. QUILL

the man behind the statue

During TWU's Constitutional Convention this September, a slightly larger-than-life statue of the union's founder, Michael J. Quill, was unveiled for the first time. It didn't dominate the huge convention hall as it now does the lobby of TWU's headquarters in Manhattan. But in a real sense, Quill's legacy continues to dominate TWU history 43 years after his death in 1966.

As we've recounted TWU's history during this 75th year of our founding, no narrative is complete without a reference to the words or deeds of TWU's first and longest serving president. So, who was this seminal figure?

Quill was born on September 18, 1905 in Kilgarvin, County Kerry, Ireland. Although the son of farmers, much of what he became was forged in the struggle for Irish independence from England. Quill was not yet 11 when Padraic Pearse proclaimed Irish independence from the steps of the Dublin Post Office in what became known as the Easter Rising of 1916.

The TWU leader was a junior volunteer in the Irish Republican Army, which fought for years to throw off the yoke of colonialism. He learned that you needed to persevere against overwhelming odds — something that stood him well when confronting the task of organizing thousands of subway workers in the midst of the Great Depression. But, more important, he learned the lesson he would preach his whole life as an organizer: "You will have to fight for your rights — they will never be given to you. And, you cannot win if you fight alone." Quill

was also a gifted speaker who could pass on these lessons to his fellow workers.

Quill's first full day in New York was St. Patrick's Day in 1926. Among his early jobs were digging tunnels for the IND line, a conductor on the Long Island Railroad and selling religious trinkets to miners in Penn-

sylvania. Wherever he went, he saw great disparities in wealth and the exploitation of working people.

hour nights we'd chat about the motormen, conductors, guards etc. whose conditions were even worse. They had to work a 'spread' of 16 hours each day in order to get 10 hours pay. Negro workers could get jobs only as porters. They were subjected to treatment that makes Little Rock and Birmingham seem liberal and

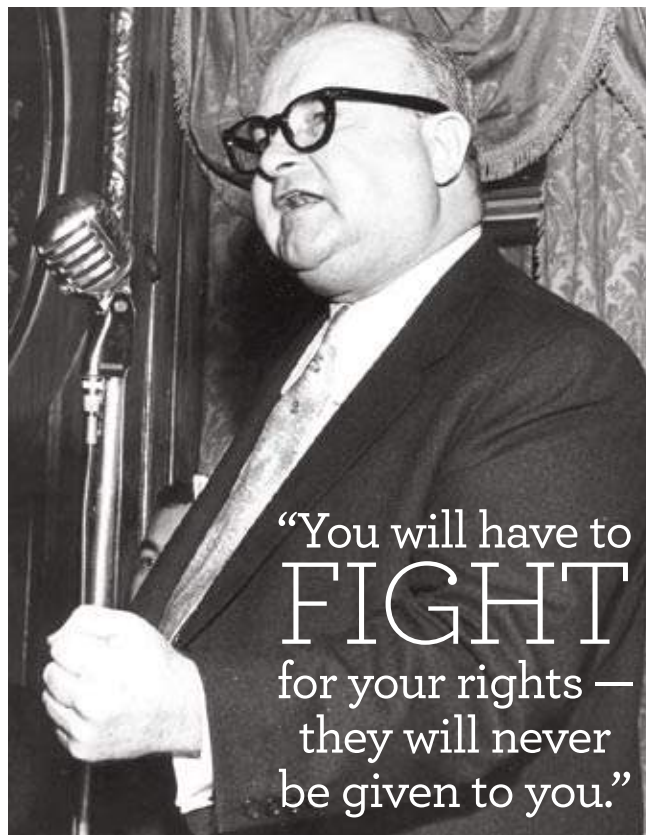
respectable by comparison ...

"I also saw Catholic ticket agents fired by Catholic bosses for going to mass early in the morning while the porter 'covered' the booth for half an hour. Protestant bosses fired Protestant workers for similar crimes — going to church. The Jewish workers had no trouble with the subway bosses — Jews were denied employment in the transit lines."

From its founding in 1934, Quill committed TWU to the principle of equality of opportunity for all races, ethnic groups and religions. That commitment continued as TWU branched into other transportation modes and occupations, and was the reason the union was an early supporter of the civil rights movement.

Although Quill was elected to the New York City Council for several terms, representing TWU members was his first priority. He most likely sacrificed his life by calling the 1966 transit strike, despite his weakened health.

At the time of his death, the Reverend Martin Luther King said, "Mike Quill was a fighter for decent things all his life — Irish independence, labor organization and racial equality. He spent his life ripping the chains of bondage off his fellow man. This is a man the ages will remember."



The story was no different when he became a ticket agent with the IRT in 1929. Working conditions were horrendous, with the norm being 12-hour days, seven days a week.

In 1961 he recalled: "During those twelve

despite his weakened health.

AMERICA NEEDS JOBS — *now!*

by COPE
Director
Hubert Snead

Congress is trying to pass the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2009, which extends federal unemployment insurance by 13 weeks for workers who have exhausted their jobless benefits. The 13-week extension, which builds on two previous expansions, applies only to states with unemployment rates of 8.5 percent or higher. Depending on state residency, a worker can currently obtain unemployment benefits for a maximum of 79 weeks.

While this will be welcome news for the unemployed, it does little to ease the anxiety of TWU members and others who are still working, but face cut-backs and layoffs in our weak economy. While various economic indicators are up, the so-called "recovery" is largely a jobless one.

American workers need more good-paying jobs and we need them now, not later. And maybe, just maybe, it might be left up to us still working to lead the demand for job creation. While our industries threaten us with layoffs, bankruptcy and closures, we need to demand that our Congressional leaders start making the stimulus package work to create more jobs.

While some people are telling us that they see signs of economic recovery, 14.9 million unemployed Americans still cannot find work. The unemployment rate continues to rise and now stands at close to 10%, keeping middle-class Americans at risk of being thrown out of work as a result of the economic downturn. More than 5 million Americans have been unemployed for six months

or longer and half of the unemployed cannot find jobs within the first six months of receiving unemployment insurance benefits. And those jobs they do find are not good-paying union jobs with benefits.

We need jobs and we need them now. There are six jobless workers for every job opening. Recent extensions of the duration of unemployment benefits have been necessary, but insufficient: 400,000 unemployed workers will have exhausted their benefits by the end of this September, a number that will increase to a devastating 1.3 million by the end of the year.

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There are job creation proposals being considered in some states, like Ohio with a new proposed passenger rail line going from Cleveland to Columbus to Cincinnati. This would provide some good-paying jobs — union jobs — in a state where union members could

use them after the recent plant closings they have endured. Now is the time to push our state politicians to approve this plan.

TWU's Ohio State Conference is urging our locals in the state to write letters to their State Representatives urging them to support this initiative. Your COPE Field Representatives will be hard at work preparing sample letters and phone scripts to get this done. Help us to help you. Your COPE dollars will be used to make this a reality and not just a vision that politicians look at for years and years with endless studies and assessments.

We need the jobs. Come on Ohio, do it now. Now is the time to increase your

COPE contributions or join COPE. That one dollar a month means a lot to our program. Join Now!

Also, **THANK YOU CONVENTION DELEGATES.** At TWU's recent Constitutional Convention, our COPE Booth signed up 156 people to increase their COPE contributions. Out of that number, 52 joined our COPE Clubs. My thanks go out to all of you who stopped by the booth and were able to talk to the COPE Staff about our upcoming plans for the COPE Program. A special thank you goes to the Cope Staff — Trish Rodican, Gwen Dunivent and Terry Daniels who helped man the booth. As of January 2010, we will have new COPE items for each of the Clubs, so look forward to some interesting gifts next year. All items for COPE Club Members for 2009 should be arriving at your doorstep in the next few months. Thanks again for helping the COPE Department get our message out to the politicians who cast votes that affect our jobs, our lives and our families' futures.



(The last issue of the Express reported on job growth at two Railroad Division repair facilities, thanks to the Obama Administration's economic stimulus package. This article follows up on the impact at the venerable Beech Grove facility in Indiana. In future issues, the Express will take a look at how stimulus money is benefitting TWU members in other divisions.)

Beech Grove REVIVAL

Stimulus Funds Give New Life to Amtrak Maintenance Facility

In September, Amtrak's Beech Grove Maintenance Facility marked 34 years as part of America's passenger railroad. But the 108-acre property in Indiana has roots that go back more than 100 years. Begun in 1904 by four railroads, Beech Grove was dedicated in 1908. The New York Central Railroad purchased the property in 1922 and at its peak during World War II it employed more than 5,000 workers. Amtrak took over 63 acres from the New York Central in 1975 and the remaining 45 acres from Conrail in 1981.

To some, Beech Grove is a remnant of America's industrial past, but for the community it's part of the facility remains a vital source of jobs. Beech Grove continues to provide good paying union jobs for more than 600 workers, including 244 TWU members who work as Carmen and Cleaners.

In recent years, Amtrak's starvation budget has threatened the viability of the facility, as management sought to cut costs and outsource operations. Now, the Obama Administration's stimulus package has given Beech Grove and its workers new life.



Local 2003 Amtrak Vice Chairperson Kevin Wheatley with then Presidential candidate Barack Obama in fall of 2008 during meeting with Obama concerning the Beech Grove shops.



Shortly after President Obama signed H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) on February 17, 2009, which included funding for Amtrak capital projects, the benefits of this legislation began showing up on the shop floor.

Amtrak hired an additional 108 employees in the mechanical department to work on these projects. Of the 108, 50 were hired as Carmen and have become members of Railroad Division Local 2003. In addition to the jobs at Amtrak, numerous other companies that supply components for these projects have increased their payrolls.

TWU Railroad Division Director Gary Maslanka, who was at Beech Grove this summer for a celebration marking completion of the first stimulus work, said it's been a golden opportunity "for our people to show that they can get the job done." He added that the work done at Beech Grove has always received praise from inside the industry, including the federal Department of Transportation.

Don May, President of Local 2003, stressed the importance of the facility to the Beech Grove, Indiana community: "The stimulus project is critical, not just for the jobs created, but for the resurgence of the passenger railroad industry, and the survival of this railroad community, Beech Grove."



LEFT, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Local 2003 Amtrak Section Secretary John Milenbaugh (2nd from left) explains painting process used on locomotive in background; from left: Amtrak Board Chairman Tom Carper, Milenbaugh, Amtrak President & CEO Joseph Boardman, TWU Railroad Division Director Gary Maslanka. Local 2003 President Don May (standing) makes a presentation on Beech Grove projects during meeting with Amtrak President Joseph Boardman and Board Chairman Tom Carper. Railroad Division Director Gary Maslanka (right) speaks with new Local 2003 members Anthony Frazier and Tim Lavelle, hired as a result of stimulus-funded projects, as International Rep. John Feltz looks on.

Proud **TWU MEMBER** Elected to City Council

This March, Local 502 member Bill Brand was elected to Redondo Beach, California's City Council. Brand has been a TWU member working for American Airlines for more than 30 years and is currently a Fleet Service Crew Chief on the ramp at Los Angeles International Airport.

Brand has always demonstrated a strong work ethic, dedication and desire to better himself and the world around him. During his 30 years with AA he balanced part time shifts with class and study time to earn degrees in Chemical Engineering from California State University and an MBA with a concentration in finance from the University of Southern California.

Brand's recent election followed an impressive demonstration of dedication to his community and to democracy. The City of Redondo Beach wanted to rezone their waterfront to accommodate a large real



estate development plan despite community opposition. Brand helped shepherd two successful referendums and ran a campaign that won an advisory vote. Then he co-authored an initiative that amended the City Charter to always require a public vote whenever there are significant changes to allowable development. The initiative won the public

vote by 58 percent in November 2008.

Brand's outspoken leadership on behalf of his neighbors and community led to his election to the City Council this past March, where he continues to fight for the public's right to protect their land.

"The job is what I expected," he said. "I feel honored and a strong obligation to do the best job that I can for the future of my city."

Brand credits much of his political success to the TWU and its support of his campaign. "It was great to have both the moral and financial support of my union brothers and sisters in the community," Brand said. "Plus the COPE fund provided me one of my single largest campaign contributions." He encourages TWU members to donate to COPE because of its role helping to elect like-minded and labor friendly people to influential positions. Visit the legislative page on twu.org to join COPE.

LABOR'S DAY Thousands of TWU members participated in Labor Day festivities around the country. Among them were Local 100 members, who marched in a New York City parade, and Local 234 members, who attended a barbeque for members, retirees, officers and local politicians.

Local 100 members with John Liu, a candidate for NYC Comptroller. ➡

Local 234 President Willie Brown speaks to the members at the Labor Day barbeque about the current state of their contract. ⬇

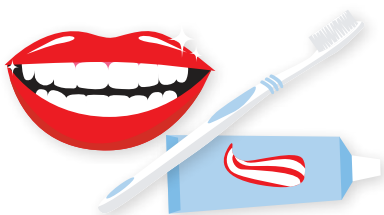


ATTENTION LOCAL 234 RETIREES

TWU Local 234 is alerting retired members that a new dental plan from United Concordia is now available. Highlights of the plan include:

- A national network of 37,700 dentists.
- 100% coverage for preventive care, such as exams, cleanings and x-rays.
- 70% coverage for basic care, such as fillings and bridge and denture repair.
- Network discounts for major procedures.

**PLEASE CALL THE UNION HALL AT
215-972-4140 FOR INFORMATION ON
UPCOMING ENROLLMENT MEETINGS.**



PRESIDENT LITTLE ELECTED AS EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIR OF TRANSPORTATION LEARNING CENTER'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Center's top officers, ATU President Warren S. George and APTA President William W. Millar, nominated President Little for his transportation leadership experience and dedication to improving the industry.

The Transportation Learning Center is a "nonprofit organization dedicated to improving public transportation on the national level and within communities."

"Participating with the Center and the other union leaders involved is a great way to help the labor movement evolve. I've always promoted training for members and am excited to be involved with an organization that works to improve and collaborate on training," says Little.

The TWU has been involved with the Center ever since its early development began nearly ten years ago.



LEFT TO RIGHT FRONT ROW: 512 Executive Board (EB) Member Paul Hildmann, Railroad Division Director Gary Maslanka, TWU Accounting Director John O'Donnell, 512 1st VP Diana Tiggs, Local 507 President Tim Hughes (crouching), Int'l Administrative Vice President and COPE Director Hubert Snead, Int'l Executive Vice President Harry Lombardo, 512 President Sean Doyle, 512 Secretary-Treasurer Kevin Hagn, Local 501 President David Virella, 512 2nd VP Chris Biancalana.

BACK ROW: 512 EB member Paul Povolito, TWU International Representative for Railroad Division Fred Fink, 512 EB member Rick Friedman, 512 Recording Secretary Mike Rubel, Section Chairman TUL Local 514 Fleet Service Sam Cirri, Local 510 President Pete Hogan, Local 505 President Mike Mayes, Local 529 President Steve Prehn.

↑ LOCAL 512 Picnic Sets Example

This summer, Local 512's annual picnic had a number of special guests added to its regular mix of members and retirees, setting a great example for other Locals to follow. Sean Doyle, president of the Chicago-based Local, saw the picnic as an opportunity to invite local politicians and leaders from across TWU Divisions and strengthen political relationships and TWU solidarity.

The picnic had a great turnout with over 1,000 attendees. Jesse White, the popular Secretary of State of Illinois, as well as three State legislators attended. International Executive Vice President Harry Lombardo, Int'l Administrative Vice President and COPE Director Hubert Snead, Railroad Division Director Gary Maslanka, and Air Transport Division Director John Conley were all in attendance, in addition to Int'l representatives from various divisions and ATD presidents (shown in photo).

While serving as Columbus Section Chairman for Local 512, Doyle joined forces with TWU members from the Railroad and Transit Divisions to form TWU of Ohio COPE. Working together for the past 10 years, the

various divisions lobbied State and federal politicians on behalf of working families. He is helping to plan the first Illinois TWU state conference to be held next year.

Doyle and Local 512 1st VP Diana Tiggs both interned with the Department of Legislative and Political Affairs, which deepened their appreciation of political participation on behalf of members.

While Doyle valued the record turnout and presence of TWU and political leaders, his main interest was providing Local 512 members an opportunity to see how they are connected to the TWU as a whole.

"We want to recognize that the TWU is so much more than just the Airline division," said Doyle. "We have Transit and Railroad members within the TWU as well. We are here for each other, and all together, we are a powerful force with our grassroots efforts in the political arena."

He feels strongly that the picnic accomplished the goal of reaching across division lines, strengthening ties with politicians, and giving members, retirees and International staff and officers a chance to become better acquainted.

Read more in the Sept-Oct issue of the ATD Insider found at twu.org/members.

LOCAL 225 Branch 4 Swears In New Officers

In mid-October, Director of the Transit, Utility, University and Services Division Susan Resch, swore in Local 225 Branch 4 officers in Brick, New Jersey. From left to right: Chris Mikkelsen, President; Margaret Reddan, Recording Secretary; Joyce L. Kramer, Treasurer; Scott Sargent, Vice President; Director of Transit Division Susan Resch. ➡





making resolutions A REALITY

by *International
Secretary-Treasurer*
Joseph C. Gordon

We completed our 23rd Constitutional Convention a few weeks ago on September 17. It's a major event, setting the tone and direction of the union for the next four years. When it's in session, the Convention is the major governing body of our union.

It's pretty exciting too. We hear some passionate speeches from the floor, as well as the podium. There's time to spend with brothers and sisters we haven't seen in awhile. And we were all inspired by the videos and other presentations linking our union to its glorious 75-year history. (This issue of the Express and our web site, twu.org, feature extensive coverage of the Convention.)

But, the real business of the Convention is through the dozens of resolutions that are debated and adopted. Through them, we recommit ourselves to supporting equal rights for all Americans (Racial,

globalization, Social Security, childcare and others.

Many issues directly affect us on the job: transportation security and funding, workplace health and safety, outsourced aircraft maintenance, pension protection, organizing, supporting passenger rail, etc.

I know that President Little and the other top officers, including myself, are committed to moving forward our agenda on all these fronts. But, I also know that resolutions will amount to little more than good intentions without one key ingredient: You, the member.

I urge you to work with us over the next four years to make our resolutions a reality. Vote, of course, but also become active in politics and contribute to our COPE program. Call or e-mail your representatives in Congress and state legislatures when important issues come up. Sign up for our e-activist newsletters on twu.org. Think about becoming a volunteer organizer; it will strengthen

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Ethnic & Gender Diversity), protecting workers' ability to form unions (Employee Free Choice Act) and securing bargaining rights (Stop "Right-to-Work," "Amend Taylor Law").

We also weigh in on the big issues confronting our country: the economy, health care reform, education, the environment,

our union and our labor movement. Be active in your community.

One of the themes of the Convention was "Building on Our Legacy." The next four years will be exciting ones. Together, we can make sure TWU founder Mike Quill's prediction continues to come true: "*The best is yet to come.*"

TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

1700 Broadway
New York, NY 10019



FROM THE CONVENTION HALL

Clockwise from top left: Local 555 President Charles Cerf, Local 291 delegation, guest speaker Rick Johnson of Lake Research, Local 101 delegation, Local 502's Sharon Polk, Local 2001's Don Lemish, guest speaker Mariia Zimmerman of Reconnecting America, Local 530 President Gordon Clark, Local 234 Vice President Allison Cooper, MaBSTOA Pipe and Drum Band, Keynote Speaker Willie Brown, Middle: Local 514 delegation.

