

Newsletter



June 2023 *Edited by William Debnal Recording Secretary*

Vice President/ABA Russ Lowe

Some of our members have expressed grave concerns about safety and security on the job. Our front line workers, those who are most exposed to the public, have suffered verbal abuse and sometimes assault from members of the public. Stressed out commuters, aggravated customers, psychologically unstable people, drug abuse, alcohol addiction, bio-hazards, and excessive trash. The problems have multiplied exponentially in the last few years. Your Union leadership has been pressing management at the properties we represent to develop common sense solutions to keep our members safe and healthy on the job in spite of the hazards. We have begun to see positive changes in security and ongoing discussions between management and some of our members. I want to encourage our members to engage in these efforts when the opportunities are presented. Take the time to report your concerns to your supervisor, fill out incident report forms, participate in meetings, and call the **Safety Hotline (253-983-3330)** about any situation that you feel puts your health or safety at risk. We know you are discouraged and experiencing crisis fatigue but if we can all contribute just a little bit more I believe the change that is necessary for us to succeed is possible.

We are all watching inflation chip away at our purchasing power. The labor contracts we previously negotiated are no longer adequate to sustain the same quality of life that a reasonable person would expect for working hard and sacrificing a substantial part of their life, safety and freedom for. You deserve economic relief and President Hoheusle and I are committed to making that possible a.s.a.p. Three of our properties have recently received surveys related to upcoming negotiations and I want to thank everyone who has taken the time to participate and offer your creative solutions. Although we may not be able to use them all, the responses help us prepare and give insight to the issues of greatest concern.

On a happier note, the annual ATU picnics are coming up this summer for the whole family and there is a golf tournament that can be a hoot (see postings). President Hoheusle and I will be attending both the Tacoma and Kelso/Longview picnics and playing in the golf tournament. I have no illusions, I will not be winning anything at the golf tournament. My clubs are old and crappy and I don't own golf attire but I started to attend these a few years ago and had a lot of fun. If you can find the time I highly recommend it.

I would also like to thank our members for their support and participation as an ATU Local 758 member. The entire Executive Board is working hard to support you and be good stewards of your hard earned dues money. We invite all our members to come to the monthly membership meetings to hear what is happening, express your interests, and challenge our financial statements.

Despite our sometimes profound differences . . . we are stronger together!

From Financial Secretary Andrew Boring

The ATU International has released the new per capita dues increase for July 1, 2023. A copy of the letter from International has been posted on the local Union boards. Information on this increase can be found in the letter and we would be happy to answer any questions regarding this increase.

From Recording Secretary William Dehnel

ATULC Pride Caucus

The International ATU has formed a caucus that represents our LGBTQIA+ members. The caucus has a Facebook group and regular Saturday meetings. I would be more than happy to share any information regarding the caucus and how to get in contact with this group if you would like to participate. The Caucus is open to LGBTQIA+ members of the ATU and the allies that support us in our battle for inclusivity.

Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

May is the month where we recognize and celebrate our Asian and Pacific Islander brothers and sisters. We should take this time to remember and honor them for the sacrifices and contributions they have made to our History and Community. Specifically this month I would like to personally thank Noel Follante at Pierce Transit. He is an Operator that has been at Transit for 7 years. He is always positive and friendly with a frequent laugh and joke to make the day go by. When the banquet was being held at Pierce Transit to honor this event Noel and his wife were up at 2AM preparing Pancit for his co-workers. In order to make others feel included in the event He took the extra effort to prepare dishes for co-workers that were working and would not be able to participate. Thank you Noel.

Other Special Thanks

Byron Minnis, Transit Operator

Byron has been at Transit for 27 years. With the retirement of Ricky Smith he has taken over the task of providing coffee supplies in the drivers lobby. These additional options and items have been provided at his own time and expense to help make our work place more welcoming and accommodating. If you get a chance please extend a Thank You and maybe a small donation to show how much we appreciate his generosity.

ATU LOCAL 758

Annual Picnic

Saturday, July 8, 2023

12:00pm - 5:00pm

At the Tacoma Sportsman Club

16409 Canyon Rd E, Puyallup, WA

Contact the Union Office ~ 253-474-3123

Camp-out July 7 & 8, 2023

*Bring your folding chairs and come
ready to relax and enjoy good
company, good food
& good fun!! (BYOB)*



***ATU LOCAL 758
LONGVIEW PICNIC***

RiverCities Transit / Lift Members

Sunday, August 27, 2023

12pm to 5pm

at Riverside Park Pavilion

1820 Westside Hwy, Kelso, WA

Food and Drinks provided!

Bring sunscreen and folding chairs!!

For more information contact

Tony Harris (360-747-1303) or

Shawnda Hurley (360-749-9919)

***Come ready to relax, and to
enjoy good food and
good company!!***

Sign-up Now!



ATU Local 758 Ronald Thornton Memorial Golf Tournament 2023

All are invited to play!

**For Information contact:
Gerald Hardeman
253-405-7086**

Location:
Eagle's Pride Golf Course
1529 Mounts Rd SW, DuPont, WA

Date:
August 5, 2023

Time:
9:00am-Shotgun Start

Teams of 4 –
\$100.00 per person

Includes:
Green Fees, Cart,
Practice Balls,
Tournament Banquet,
And lots of prizes!!





Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 758

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6923 Lakewood DR W B1 Tacoma, WA 98467-3221

(253)474-3123 atu758.org

Weingarten rights

This statement could save your job!

"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 Union representation present, I choose not to respond to any questions or statements."

UNION MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE

Executive Board meeting -Thursday, July 6, at 3:30pm (EB only)
(ATU Local 758: 6923 Lakewood Dr. B-1, Lakewood, WA)

Charter meetings

Thursday, July 13th at 6:30 PM & Friday, July 14th at CANCELED
(ATU Local 758: 6923 Lakewood Dr. B-1, Lakewood, WA)

Wednesday, July 19th at 7:15 PM in Longview,
(upstairs lunchroom: 254 Oregon Way, Longview WA)

EMAIL ADDRESSES AND CONTACT NUMBERS

John Hoheusle, President/Business Agent: 758president@atu758.org (253)533-0003

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William Dehnel, Recording Secretary: 758recordingsec@atu758.org (253)754-7584

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