



TEAMSTERS LOCAL 727

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2019

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John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer ▫ TeamstersLocal727.org ▫ 1300 W. Higgins Road, Suite 111 ▫ Park Ridge, IL 60068

Members Vote to Ratify New Master Trade Show Industry and Warehouse CBAs

Local 727 trade show members recently ratified a new Master Trade Show Industry collective bargaining agreement, as well as new warehouse agreements with trade show contractors Freeman Expositions and Global Exposition Services.

The 5-year contracts are notable for including the largest historical increase in total compensation for trade show members without a reduction in crew size. Despite Contractors' threats to derail negotiations over their demand of reduced crew sizes, the Union bargaining committee stood strong and preserved the 2-man crew system.

The ratified CBAs also take the momentous step of replacing the failing Central States Pension Fund with a new 401(k) Retirement Plan. Effective July 1, Contractors will begin making contributions on behalf of trade show industry members into the new plan. They will also be required to make an initial contribution to seed each retirement account in an effort to offset 24 months of Central States reductions at age 65. While there will not be an annual vesting requirement, the 401(k) Plan will require members work a minimum of 200 hours each year to qualify.

"Local 727 has long argued there is no sense in paying Central States' high contribution rates when our members will receive little, if any, of those contributions in the future. With the introduction of the new 401(k) Plan, our trade show members will have a more secure retirement," stated Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr.

PBGC Approves Merger of Local 727 Pension Plan & Chicago Tribune Pension Fund



Union bargaining committee members stand with John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer & 727 Pension Plan Trustee, following the attainment of a merger agreement. From left: John Scales, Anthony Wendel, 727 Lead Business Agent Melissa Senatore, Secretary-Treasurer Coli, Tim Cagney, & Rich Flor.

This past November, the Teamsters Local Union No. 727 Pension Plan Board of Trustees and Chicago Newspaper Publishers Drivers Union Pension Fund representatives reached an agreement to merge the two pension funds and, in doing so, save the pensions of approximately 850 participants. The absorption of the struggling Chicago Tribune Pension Fund by the well-funded Local 727 Pension Plan will stabilize hundreds of participants' pensions, including Local 727-represented Chicago Tribune delivery drivers.

Before the pension merger could be finalized, the pension funds jointly contacted the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC)—a federal agency

responsible for protecting the pensions of participants in private-sector multiemployer defined benefit plans—and asked it to review and approve the terms of the merger agreement. Local 727 is proud to announce that the PBGC approved the agreement, and the merger will move forward.

Among the terms of the agreement negotiated by the Local 727 Pension Plan and Chicago Tribune Pension Fund (and approved by the PBGC) was a stipulation that requires the Tribune to pay a total of \$68 million to the Local 727 Pension Plan over 6¼ years. The Tribune made its first payment to the Union Pension Plan in the amount of

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IMPORTANT DATES**Membership Meetings:**

Held at noon in the meeting hall at 1300 W. Higgins Rd., Suite 114, in Park Ridge, IL

- Sunday, September 29
- Sunday, October 27

Union Office Closings:

- Labor Day
Monday, September 2
- Columbus Day
Monday, October 14

Upcoming Events:

- Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk
Saturday, October 19

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Vimeo.com/Local727

BRIEFLY SPEAKING**Join the Local Teamster Caucuses and Committees!**

- **Chicago Teamsters Hispanic Caucus:**
ChicagoTeamstersHispanicCaucus.org
- **Teamsters Joint Council 25 Women's Committee:** TeamsterWomen.com
- **Teamsters National Black Caucus Chicago Chapter:** ChicagoTNBC.com

Know Your Weingarten Rights!

The U.S. Supreme Court's 1975 decision in the Weingarten case held that if the employer requires an employee to submit to an investigatory meeting and denies the employee's request for union representation, then the employer is in violation of the National Labor Relations Act.

If you are called into a meeting and have reason to believe that disciplinary action may be imposed, you have the right to have a union agent present during the meeting.

Read this statement to management: "If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I request my union representative be present at the meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions. This is my right under the U.S. Supreme Court decision called Weingarten."

Contact your Teamsters Local 727 business representative at (847) 696-7500 for more information and to receive a handy wallet-size version of your Weingarten rights.

Teamster Benefits & Discounts

In addition to job protection, benefits and wages provided for in Local 727 contracts, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters provides additional services offered at a discounted cost to Teamster members. Because of the strength and size of our membership, the International is able to negotiate lower costs for services ranging from legal to medical to financial. Visit Teamster.org/Benefits to find out more.

Order Illinois Teamster License Plates

Illinois drivers can purchase Teamster specialty license plates for registered

vehicles. Plates can be purchased for all passenger vehicles, B-trucks and vans weighing 8,000 pounds or less.

Total fees for new vehicle plates, or replacement plates for existing vehicles, vary depending on the individual vehicle registration.

Teamster license plates can be purchased or renewed through the Illinois Secretary of State's website (CyberDriveIllinois.com), by mail, by phone at (800) 252-8980, or by visiting a local Secretary of State facility.

Withdrawal Cards

Contact the Local 727 Dues Department at (847) 696-7500 for information on taking a withdrawal card if you plan to be off work for an extended period of time.

Local 727 Executive Board

John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer
Curt Ziedrich, President
Darryl Poelinitz, Vice President
William Coli, Recording Secretary
Anthony Wendel, Trustee
Patrice Jefferson, Trustee
Jose Delgado, Trustee

Local 727 Staff

Ana Barrera, Receptionist
Jayna Brown, General Counsel
Elizabeth Chaidez, Titan Operator
Kristen Leet, Bookkeeper
Mike McManus, Director of Referrals
Linnette Medina, Titan Operator
Anabel Ornelas, Office Manager
Margaret Upstrom, Lead Titan Operator
Maggie Ward, Communications Director

Local 727 Business Agents and Organizers

Caleen Carter-Patton, Lead Business Agent
Mike DeGard, Business Agent
Zach Frankenbach, Lead Business Agent
David Glass, Business Agent
Don Leiva, Organizer
Nick Micaletti, Business Agent
Chris Owoyemi, Business Agent
Ben Rodriguez, Business Agent
Melissa Senatore, Lead Business Agent
Donnie Von Moore, Business Agent

CONTRACT RATIFICATIONS

Great Lakes Coca-Cola Distribution

Teamsters Local 727 members employed by Great Lakes Coca-Cola Distribution have ratified a new 3-year collective bargaining agreement. The agreement unifies the 3 contracts that previously covered Inside and Outside GLCCD employees, as well as GLCCD employees operating under the former Coca-Cola Refreshments contract, into a single CBA.

Among the top achievements of the Local 727 bargaining committee was the successful negotiation of annual wage increases that raise workers wages to or above area industry standards. The new CBA also specifies that all GLCCD merchandisers shall be transitioned to hourly employees effective April 26, 2020. As such, half-time will be eliminated and all merchandisers will begin to receive time and a half for overtime work.

Additionally, Local 727 representatives were successful in negotiating a 7% cap on increases to employee contributions for the Company's current HSA and HRA medical plans for the life of the agreement. The successor agreement also includes a new PPO health care plan option. The new PPO plan's deductible, out-of-pocket maximum, and level of coverage will be frozen for the duration of the agreement.

Yet another success of the new CBA is the introduction of limits to live loading. The CBA specifies that live loading will only include a General Laborers' loading of: (1) pallets that he or she has built; (2) pallets built by other General Laborers that could not be loaded because they were out of sequence; and (3) stock and/or layer pallets.

Additionally, the new contract contains mix mode improvements, including bulk stop and bulk pallet premiums for OFS drivers, a bonus for OFS drivers that are delayed for 1 hour or more at a bulk stop delivery, and contract language that ensures the compensation an OFS driver earns from bulk deliveries will not be counted towards his or her DMR pay.

Standard Coffee Warehouse Workers & Drivers and D.S. Waters Drivers

In June, Standard Coffee warehouse workers and drivers and D.S. Waters drivers voted overwhelmingly in favor of ratifying new wage and health care terms for their two collective bargaining agreements.

All D.S. Outside and Standard Coffee members will receive significant wage increases under the ratified agreements. The economic agreements also include premium pay for leads and an approximately 4% increase in the Company's weekly, daily, and 6-day guarantees. Additionally, the new terms are the first to explicitly list a weekend special events rate. By negotiating the inclusion of this rate in the CBAs, Local 727 has successfully guaranteed D.S. Services of America cannot lower the rate without bargaining with the Union.

The recently ratified economic reopeners also require D.S. management to begin providing employees with individualized health care cost analyses in order to assist them in selecting the health care plan that best suits their needs. Under the new agreements, D.S. must also provide Local 727 with advance notice and the opportunity to discuss any changes to its health care plans.

The economic terms of the agreements will reopen for negotiation again in 2020. While these agreements are a step in the right direction, Local 727 remains determined in its pursuit of a lasting health care fix for our D.S. Brothers and Sisters. The Union expects D.S. Services to spend the upcoming months developing real solutions to the many health care concerns discussed during negotiations and looks forward to discussing the Company's proposed solutions at length when the parties return to the bargaining table next year.

ORGANIZING VICTORIES

MV-422: MV Transportation drivers and aides servicing the MV Chicago 422 Division overwhelmingly voted to join Local 727 earlier this year. The workers of MV-422 are responsible for the safe transportation of children with special needs.

Local 727 opened negotiations for the unit's first collective bargaining agreement by proposing guaranteed paid time off, contract language that would ensure seniority is observed, and strong workplace protections, including a grievance procedure.

The parties are scheduled to meet again on August 5, 6, and 7 to continue bargaining.

MV-283: On June 17, nearly 40 drivers employed by MV Transportation 283 VA Division voted in favor of Teamsters Local 727 representation by a staggering 4:1 ratio. The drivers of MV-283 VA Division are entrusted with safely transporting veterans across the Chicago area. By overwhelmingly voting to join Local 727, they have bravely chosen to take a stand for respect, strong benefits, and fair pay.

Local 727 and MV are currently scheduled to begin negotiations for the new unit's first contract in August.

DR PEPPER SALESMEN: Area Sales Managers and Sales Services Representatives employed by the American Bottling Company, d/b/a Keurig Dr Pepper, voted overwhelmingly in favor of union representation on Friday, July 12. The group of nearly 70 Northlake-based salesmen are the fourth unit this year to select Teamsters Local 727 as their sole collective bargaining representative.

"Local 727 now represents nearly 600 Dr Pepper employees across Illinois. As our industry presence continues to grow, so too does our strength and our power to negotiate the rich contracts these dedicated workers deserve," said Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr. "We look forward to securing a strong first contract for our newest members."

Local 727 Demands Keurig Dr Pepper Return to the Bargaining Table

Teamsters Local 727 Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr. sent a letter to the American Bottling Company, d/b/a Keurig Dr Pepper, on Thursday, July 17, informing the Company that the Union does not believe there was a meeting of the minds regarding when employees would be required to move into the new Keurig Dr Pepper health care plan. As such, Local 727 does not believe that negotiations over the terms of a successor collective bargaining agreement have concluded. Local 727 has demanded that Keurig Dr Pepper return to the negotiating table and continue bargaining.

“Local 727 has always been straightforward and clear with Employers—we do not sign a contract unless it reflects the agreements reached during negotiations,” said Secretary-Treasurer Coli. “Because we believe there was no meeting of the minds over this critical issue, the Union will not be executing the contract sent by Keurig Dr Pepper and we demand that the Company provide dates for future bargaining.”

Considering the devastating affect a loss of health care coverage could have on members, Local 727 encouraged all Inside Keurig Dr Pepper employees to enroll in the new HSA plan by Friday, July 19. While the Union encouraged members to enroll in the new plan, Local 727 continues to protest this forced enrollment and fight Dr Pepper.

Scan the QR code to read Secretary-Treasurer Coli's letter to Keurig Dr Pepper



**Or visit
rebrand.ly/KDP-Return-To-Bargaining**

NEGOTIATION HIGHLIGHTS

Local 727 Presses for Health Care Fix in Ongoing CBA Negotiations with Vitalant

Local 727 and Vitalant (formerly Lifesource) opened negotiations in May for a new contract covering distribution drivers and Mobile Unit Assistants.

The Union kicked-off negotiations by proposing the inclusion of Vitalant members in the Teamsters Local 727 health care plan, a 100% employer-funded health insurance program with no premium costs for participants and an opportunity to receive 90-10 coverage. The Union bargaining committee made it clear to the Company that rising health care costs are a critical issue for members and must be addressed.

In addition to demanding a health care fix, the Union has also demanded that all employee benefits be outlined and detailed in the new contract.

Currently, many of the benefits Vitalant workers receive, including health care, shift differentials, paid time off, and retirement benefits, are tied to

corporate policies. By specifying the terms of these benefits in the Union contract they will become enforceable through the grievance procedure.

While the parties have made progress on non-economic issues, Vitalant remains obstinate about addressing the serious economic concerns of Local 727 members. In fact, as of July 10, the Company's sole wage proposal of a \$0.10 per year raise—which represents significantly less than a 1% increase in hourly wage rates—would do little, if anything, to ease the crippling burden of health care costs from workers' backs.

Local 727 took action and informed the public of Vitalant's disregard for the concerns of its employees outside of the Company's headquarters earlier this month. The Union called on the public to stand with workers and demand Vitalant cease disrespecting their employees.

Osco's Intractability Hampers Progress During Contract Negotiations

In April, the Local 727 bargaining committee opened negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement covering all Osco pharmacists by presenting a comprehensive contract proposal.

Some of the Union's top opening proposals included substantial annual wage raises, an increase in paid time off, elimination of the 12-hour workday, updates to bidding procedures that will ensure seniority is strictly followed and part-time employees have an opportunity to bid on open full-time positions before outside hires, as well as new scheduling procedures which would require floater schedules be determined in advance. Local 727 has also proposed that pharmacists be given the ability to close pharmacies during a lunch/dinner break when no other pharmacist is present.

In stark contrast to the Union, Osco has proposed the expansion of 12-hour

days, the removal of restrictions on the number of 12-hour days new hires can be forced to work, the creation of a lower tier for days off for new hires, as well as the replacement of vacation time with a PTO program. Most outrageously, Osco topped off its list of proposals by proposing the elimination of head pharmacists from the bargaining unit.

Despite the Union bargaining committee's repeated good faith efforts to engage Osco representatives in productive conversations, the Company's continued refusal to make any real movement on its outrageous contract proposals has hindered the progress of negotiations.

Nevertheless, the Local 727 bargaining committee remains steadfast and determined in its demand for fair wages, improved workplace conditions, and respect.

GRIEVANCE & ARBITRATION UPDATES

District Judge Dismisses Chicago Tribune Attempt to Overturn Arbitration Award

The U.S. District Court has dismissed a frivolous lawsuit filed against Local 727 by the Chicago Tribune and, as a result, blocked the Tribune's attempt to overturn the July 2018 "gap pay" arbitration award.

The arbitration award was issued last year by a neutral arbitrator who determined that the Tribune had violated the CBA when it ceased its long-standing practice of paying drivers gap pay when they were called into work within the ten-hour guaranteed rest period between their shifts. The Tribune was subsequently ordered to make whole affected newspaper delivery drivers. Rather than abide by the final and binding arbitration decision, the Tribune filed a lawsuit with the U.S. District Court in an attempt to vacate the award.

"The Tribune's attempt to vacate the gap pay award is an insult to our wronged members," said John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer of Local 727. "Local 727 demands the Chicago Tribune focus on fulfilling its lawful obligations under the signed CBA."

Union's Persistence Results in Arbitration Win for Trade Show Members, G.E.S. Ordered to Cease and Desist

Teamsters Local 727 was recently awarded an arbitration win when Arbitrator Lisa Salkovitz Kohn determined that Global Exposition Services (G.E.S.) had violated the terms of the Trade Show Industry collective bargaining agreement for shows occurring on September 24, October 9, and October 12, 2009.

The arbitration initially stems from multiple grievances filed by Local 727 in 2009. These grievances alleged that G.E.S. violated the Trade Show Industry CBA on September 24, October 9, and October 12, 2009, when it used supplemental employees to perform bargaining unit work before utilizing Trade Show Referral List employees.

"Local 727 will not tolerate such a blatant disregard for the collective bargaining agreement," said John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer of Local 727. "G.E.S. cannot ignore the contract and make-up its own rules. No trade show contractor is above the CBA."

Despite finding that G.E.S.'s use of supplemental employees violated the terms of the Trade Show Industry CBA, Arbitrator Salkovitz Kohn limited the arbitration award to only three shows in 2009. As such, the arbitrator seemingly disregarded contract violations by G.E.S. which occurred after the initial grievance was filed in 2009.

"The arbitrator's decision to limit this award to just 3 dates is outrageous. It is absurd to think that the Union could have predicted in 2009 every instance of G.E.S. violating the contract," stated Coli. "While we're disappointed at the restrictions and length of time it took to reach this decision, Local 727 is pleased that justice ultimately prevailed."

The arbitration award also requires G.E.S. to cease and desist from using supplemental employees in violation of the Union contract.

"No matter how long or tough the fight," added Coli, "this Union will always stand up for our members' jobs."

Local 727 Files for Arbitration after GLCCD Lies to Members about Holiday Pay Eligibility

Teamsters Local 727 filed a grievance against Great Lakes Coca-Cola Distribution after learning that management lied to members by claiming that employees who take a sick day the day before or following a holiday would not be eligible for holiday pay. This contradicts the GLCCD contract that states an employee who misses work due to an excused absence—including sick days—is eligible to receive holiday pay.

Despite the Union having pointed out this contradiction during a grievance meeting, GLCCD has refused to acknowledge and correct its error. As a result, Local 727 has filed for arbitration.

"Spreading such blatant lies just prior to a busy holiday seems like a ploy to scare employees into working when they are ill. We demand GLCCD retract its lies and notify all employees of the inaccuracy of its statements," said Secretary-Treasurer Coli. "Profit should never be placed above the health of our hardworking members."

Union Successfully Settles Crowne Plaza Grievance

Teamsters Local 727 has successfully settled an outstanding grievance against the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The grievance was originally filed when the Union was informed by members that Concentra, a company contracted by the Crowne Plaza to conduct Department of Transportation physicals, was requiring workers to sign individual agreements with overreaching health care releases in violation of the Local 727 collective bargaining agreement.

After Crowne Plaza management initially denied the Union's grievance, Local 727 submitted the grievance for arbitration. As a result of the Union's persistence, the Crowne Plaza has relented and agreed to immediately cease requiring employees to sign individual agreements now or in the future.

"The Union contract is very clear on this matter—management cannot enter into an agreement with individual employees," said Secretary-Treasurer Coli. "With its long working relationship with the Union, the Crowne Plaza should know better. Local 727 will not stand for such a blatant violation of the Union CBA."

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approximately \$10 million this past April. "The Local 727 Pension Plan Board of Trustees has worked tirelessly for years to protect and safeguard the retirements of our members," stated Pension Plan Trustee and Local 727 Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr. "We are thrilled to have been a part of saving the pensions and helping to secure the futures of so many of our hardworking Brothers, Sisters, and their families. We look forward to the conclusion of this merger and the relief it will bring to our Tribune members."

Local 727 is Stepping Up and Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Teamsters Local 727 invites all members and their families to join the Union in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer at the American Cancer Society's upcoming walk in Park Ridge, IL. Grab your comfiest walking shoes and come out to support the fight against breast cancer!

The MSABC walk will take place on Saturday, October 19, beginning at 9 a.m. at Hodges Park, 101 S. Courtland Ave, Park Ridge.

Local 727 will once again be sponsoring the Big Pink Chair at this year's walk. Make sure to bring your camera and hop up on the Big Pink Chair to snap a picture with the Local 727 sign!

WALK DETAILS

Walk Begins: 9 a.m.

Location: Hodges Park, Park Ridge

Register: rebrand.ly/727-Walk

Questions: Contact Maggie Ward at (847) 696-7500



Local 727 members Wennoa Lewis-Blair and Crystal Larry at the 2018 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Park Ridge.

Local 727's Summer CE Seminar Keeps Funeral Professionals' Skills Sharp



Gale Bednar-Keefe from the Office of the Cook County Medical Examiner opens the Summer C.E. Seminar with a presentation on opioid related deaths, trends, and challenges.

Teamsters Local 727's biannual continuing education seminar kicked-off at noon on Wednesday, May 29. Hosted twice each year in the Union's Park Ridge meeting hall and free to Local 727 members in good standing, the six-hour seminar offers funeral industry professionals the opportunity to earn up to six C.E. hours.

"Local 727 aims to make each of our C.E. seminars an interesting, engaging, and informative experience. We hope that by bringing our members into contact with industry experts we will help them to stay on top of the industry's latest trends and keep their skills sharp," said John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer of Local 727. "Our Union is proud to be able to help reduce the cost of maintaining a funeral directing and embalming license by offering this vital service at no cost to our hardworking members. We hope to see even more members take advantage of this great opportunity at our next seminar!"

The Union will hold its next C.E. seminar this fall. Members are encouraged to share their ideas for topics with their Local 727 business representatives and reach out to the Union if they are interested in becoming a speaker.



Local 727 members Craig Operzedek and Gregg Sandeman earn continuing education credits at the free Local 727 biannual C.E. seminar on May 29.

Charitable Fund Golf Outing Raises More Than \$30,000 for *Prostate Cancer Foundation of Chicago*

The Teamsters Local 727 Charitable Fund successfully raised more than \$30,000 for the *Prostate Cancer Foundation of Chicago* at its Second Annual Golf Outing. The Outing, held on June 21 at the White Pines Golf Club in Bensenville, was attended by more than 110 golfers.

The day began with a delicious bloody mary bar sponsored by Illinois Advocates and a savory cookout luncheon sponsored by LSV Asset Management, followed by a full round of golf. Golfers not only had the opportunity to play 18 holes, but also participated in multiple on-course competitions and raffles. Contest and raffle winners were announced during the Outing's closing cocktail reception, which was sponsored by Elite Administration and included an open bar and scrumptious appetizers.

The Outing Grand Prize winner went home with a one-night stay at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Chicago, six reserved executive box seats for a day of racing at Arlington International Racecourse, a prize package from Davis Vision that included stylish sunglasses, golf balls, tees, and a golf umbrella, and an exclusive prize package from Dixon golf. One lucky raffle winner received four tickets to an upcoming Chicago Cubs game and two Outing attendees took home a set of golf balls all courtesy of Innovative Direct Solutions, while the winners of the "Longest Drive" and "Closest to the Pin" contests won a prize package from Davis Vision and gift certificates for therapeutic massages from HomeTown Health.

"Thank you to all of our members and friends who joined us for our Second Annual Golf Outing, and thank you to our many generous sponsors who helped the Charitable Fund to make this year's Outing a reality," said John Coli, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer of Local 727.

Proceeds from the Outing will assist the *Prostate Cancer Foundation of Chicago* in providing vital services and assistance to members of our communities during some of their toughest days. To learn more about the Prostate Cancer Foundation, or to find out more about prostate cancer symptoms, treatments, and research, visit ChicagoProstateFoundation.org.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Charitable Fund, thank you to everyone who supported our Second Annual Golf Outing. It is because of the generosity of our allies that we were able to surpass our fundraising goal," added Anthony Wendel, President of the Teamsters Local 727 Charitable Fund. "We look forward to continuing to grow our charitable events and to raising funds for so many of the wonderful organizations in our community."

If you are interested in donating to or joining the Teamsters Local 727 Charitable Fund at its next event, please contact Local 727 Communications Director Maggie Ward by calling (847) 696-7500 or emailing MWard@TeamstersLocal727.org.

The Teamsters Local 727 Charitable Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Federal tax ID: 82-4859112



Local 727 members enjoyed a delicious cookout before teeing off.



Members had a ball golfing at White Pines Golf Course in Bensenville.



Clear skies and moderate wind made for an enjoyable day on the course.

**See all of the outing pictures at
[flickr.com/TeamstersLocal727](https://www.flickr.com/photos/TeamstersLocal727/)**

SUMMER 2019



TEAMSTERS LOCAL 727

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

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A Message from Secretary-Treasurer John Coli, Jr.

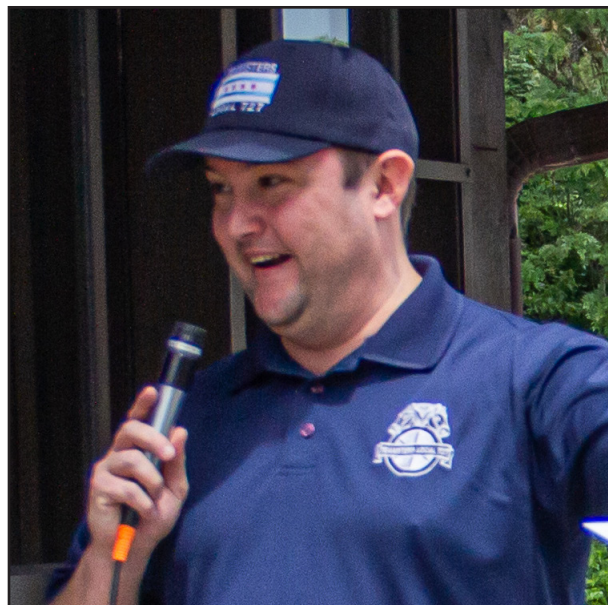
Growing Larger & Stronger

Teamsters Local 727 represents nearly 10,000 workers in a variety of industries across the Chicagoland area, and we only continue to grow and to expand. In the first half of this year alone we have organized more than 200 hardworking men and women, brave workers who have made the courageous decision to stand up and demand respect.

As our Union family has grown, so too has our strength. With more voices raised as one, our calls for fairness, for justice, and for dignity have carried farther. And together, our solidarity has allowed us to defeat industry behemoths and overcome seemingly impossible obstacles.

But we cannot allow ourselves to grow complacent. Newly organized workers, decades-long members, stewards—each of us must remain vigilant. We must speak up and speak out. Most importantly, we must continue to support one another in contract negotiations, grievances, arbitrations, pickets, strikes, and in our everyday lives.

Local 727 will continue to move forward with a focus on growing our Union family, on organizing new members and strengthening our current bargaining units, because by uniting and working together we can ensure this Union remains strong, successful, and on the right track.



John Coli