

# Special Organizing Issue: Welcome UPS Freight

## Secretary-Treasurer's Message By Randy Cammack

It is my great honor to welcome 804 UPS Freight employees to the membership of Teamsters Local 63.

These new members now have assurance that their jobs, wages and benefits are protected by a union contract, and by the strength of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Local 63 organizers played a major role in the success of this historic national campaign. Approximately 15,000 UPS Freight employees at 300 terminals have signed authorization cards to become Teamsters.

Local 63 now represents drivers and dockworkers at four area terminals: Montebello, Pico Rivera, Fontana and Rialto.

### UPS Freight: The Organizers

The astounding success of this campaign is a testament to the hard work of organizers around the country. But it is thanks to the determination of local employee, volunteer and staff organizers that these 804 members can now enjoy the seniority, grievance procedures, health and welfare benefits and pension plans that come with membership.

Local 63's UPS Freight organizing coalition included Business Agents and Organizers Ramiro Alonzo, Ruben Enriquez, Randy Korgan, Craig Quiroz and Tony Viegas. The coalition also included many volunteers who spent countless hours in training, on the

phone, at job sites, making house calls or doing whatever was necessary to fulfill their commitment to organizing.

At UPS terminals across the Southland, drivers and dockworkers Jesse Juarez, Lenny Almaraz, Albert Viallanueva, Carlos Caamano, Daniel Aguilar and John Morris worked quietly for months, if not years, to ensure the success of this organizing drive. (Please see pages 6-9 where these proud Teamsters tell their organizing stories.)

Contract negotiations began in October 2007 and concluded in March 2008. The five-year contract provides UPS Freight workers with wage increases, mileage, a grievance process, time-and-a-half after 8 and after 40 and a mileage increase.

### Freight Success Affects all Members

As the largest freight local in the West, we have an important role to play in maintaining fair wages and benefits for drivers and dock workers around the country. We work hard to organize freight to preserve pay in the industry.

Local 63's continued freight organizing successes — from UPS Freight to USF Reddaway — and that of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, makes us a formidable source of power for workers around the country, whatever their profession.

### Nonunion Jobs Threaten Union Members

There are two important reasons for Teamsters to organize non-union workers.

Organizing gives new members the protection of a union contract, as well as the higher wages and benefits that union members traditionally earn.

Organizing also protects the jobs of existing members. A non-union company can pay less to their employees and provide fewer benefits. Therefore these non-union companies have lower operating costs and can charge less for their products and services, threatening union jobs.

### With Your Support, Local 63 Continues to Organize

With your support, Local 63 will continue to receive national attention for our successful organizing campaigns.

With your support, our membership will continue to grow, as will our power to protect the hard-won workers' rights we enjoy today.

Please enjoy this special issue on Organizing.

In solidarity, Secretary-Treasurer Randy Cammack.