



HISTORY:
**Liz Shuler Elected
 AFL-CIO President**



AIR / 15

Assault Won't Fly Campaign
 Officially Launched



RAIL / 18

Visit to Beech
 Grove Shop



TRANSIT / 20

Local 101 Rallies
 to Save Jobs



The TWU's Power in the Labor Movement

By International President John Samuelsen

“We are laser focused
on staying ahead
of the curve – we’re
proactive, not reactive
– and we’re working
hard to defend
the livelihoods of
TWU families.”

The 155,000 members of the Transport Workers Union have made a huge impact in the broader Labor Movement and the recognition of our efforts was on full display at the AFL-CIO Convention in Philadelphia.

The TWU is the only union putting in the work in the political arena to save the jobs of workers under threat from new technology. We made that clear during the “Fireside Chat” on the main stage of the convention, along with AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler and other trade union leaders, where we stressed that no technology can ever or should ever replace a human being in passenger transport service delivery.

International Administrative Vice President Curtis Tate was given the opportunity to talk in more detail about this work during a panel discussion with Carnegie Mellon University and other trade unionists. Tate spoke with unparalleled knowledge of the potential dangers steamrolling its way toward transport workers from the development of advanced technology.

There was a near constant crowd at our Transportation Technology booth, where we handed out literature and screened a video showcasing our work to insulate workers from harm in the face of technology dangers and ensuring it won’t destroy us. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh made it his first stop when he entered the Convention Hall and President Shuler also came by to visit and speak to TWU members about the issues facing us.

We also had flight attendant members from Allegiant, JetBlue and Southwest handing out luggage tags promoting the TWU’s “Assault Won’t Fly” campaign, which is fighting to end the scourge of assaults against Flight Attendants and all airline workers.

In yet another recognition of our advances in trade union power, when the electoral slate of President Shuler was nominated, I was asked on behalf of the TWU, to second it.

The TWU is truly America’s Fighting Union. We are laser focused on staying ahead of the curve – we’re proactive, not reactive – and we’re working hard to defend the livelihoods of TWU families. Our power and influence in the Labor Movement and in Washington DC are growing every day.

As a TWU member, you should be proud of the work that our union has been doing and will continue to do. Stay safe and enjoy the summer season!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Samuelsen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA, AFL-CIO

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International President

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Int'l Executive Vice President

JEROME LAFRAGOLA
Int'l Secretary-Treasurer

CURTIS TATE
Int'l Administrative Vice President

MIKE MAYES
Int'l Administrative Vice President

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

MICHAEL O'BRIEN
Int'l President Emeritus

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Building Relationships

*By International Secretary-Treasurer
Jerome Lafragola*

Labor unions and government officials have a unique relationship. We are each elected to serve our constituents, we often work together to improve the lives of working people, and the decisions we make effect generations of Americans. Most of the time, we are able to collaborate to improve the lives of working people.

As a union leader – both when I was a local union President and now as the International’s Secretary-Treasurer – I have found it essential to build alliances with our elected officials whether Democrat, Republican or Independent. Over the past few years, I’ve had the opportunity to meet and converse with mayors, governors, legislators, and the President of the United States. These opportunities provided a forum for me to explain and advance the issues that affect our members’ livelihoods. The TWU has had much success in this area specifically because of the leadership’s understanding the value of a strong political relationships.

President Samuelsen and I visited New Jersey’s Governor Murphy at his home in the Garden State to discuss his pro-worker agenda and other issues, including holding Uber and Lyft accountable for unemployment and other taxes, as well as prioritizing infrastructure investment and ensuring that good, union jobs build and maintain new transportation options.

I had the pleasure of meeting President Biden, along with other union leaders. It provided a forum to discuss and thank the President for the Infrastructure bill, the important role union members will play in the November elections and other issues affecting working people.

No matter what political party you’re affiliated with, it’s important that we try to find common ground to advance issues that impact TWU members and working people. Working people share one common enemy, which is not each other, but non-worker friendly employers. When we truly work together, we can build a future that will benefit all.

I hope you all can get some time to relax and enjoy the summer season. Please stay healthy and safe.



Secretary-Treasurer Jerome Lafragola with U.S. President Joe Biden



President John Samuelsen and Secretary-Treasurer Jerome Lafragola with New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy

Local 700 President Robert Taylor III

The TWU International is sad to announce that TWU Local 700 President Robert Taylor III passed away on April 3. Taylor served as Local President for 34 years.

“My deepest condolences go out to Robert’s family and loved ones,” said TWU International President John Samuelsen. “Robert was a great and respected leader and will be truly missed by all.”

In addition to serving the union, he was also a co-host on the Philadelphia-based Jasper Jones (Radio) Show, was Secretary-Treasurer, of the Friends of Wharton Square, Local Advisory Council, and frequently gave public comments at Philadelphia City Council meetings on issues of importance to Local 700 members and the greater community.

“Robert was a great and respected leader and will be truly missed by all.”

—TWU International President John Samuelsen.



Robert Taylor III

Railroad International Rep Fred Fink

The TWU is saddened by the death of former TWU Local 2019 President and TWU International Representative Fred Fink, who passed away on May 4.

Fink began his career in 1974 as a Carman on the Penn Central Railroad and was active union member from his first day. He became an officer for Local 2019 in Cleveland, Ohio and worked his way through the ranks of the local as Committeeman, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, and then President from 1992 until 2004. He was appointed to the TWU’s International Executive Board in 2001 where he served with distinction until his retirement in December of 2016.

In September 2004, Fink joined the Railroad Division staff as an International Representative where he provided advice, guidance, and bargaining support to locals with members working on, Norfolk Southern, CSX and Conrail. He also served on the Federal Railroad Administration’s Railroad Safety Advisory Committee, and AAR Safety Appliance Task Force.

Fink worked tirelessly as a true Unionist on behalf of Railroad Division members at the local and International levels. He provided a voice on the job and a better quality of life for working people throughout an impressive career. He was unwavering in securing the best possible contracts and the dignity and respect on the job that our members deserve.



Fred Fink (right) with current Local 2019 President Mike Paragios.

“Fred was unwavering in securing the best possible contracts and the dignity and respect on the job that our members deserve.”

Secretary of Labor Addresses TWU Members, Leadership at St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh spoke to about 200 essential workers in New York City on March 16, including members of TWU Local 100 and TWU Local 1400, after receiving the James Connolly Labor Award.

"From the bottom of this heart, this means the world to me," he said. "I will never forget where I came from and that there are thousands of workers who still need to be fought for today."

TWU International President John Samuelsen served as the event's emcee and gave remarks to the crowd, along with NYC Mayor Eric Adams, Rep. Tom Suozzi, former NYC Councilmember Elizabeth Crowley, Operating Engineers President James Callahan and LIUNA President Terry O'Sullivan.



President John Samuelsen with New York-based members



NYC Mayor Eric Adams, President John Samuelsen and Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh



President John Samuelsen and Air Division Director and International Vice President Gary Peterson



President John Samuelsen with Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh (center) and labor leaders

Spirit Air GSA Training

On April 14, Spirit Airlines Guest Service Agents held a training session in Fort Lauderdale.



Supporting Ironworkers

Members of TWU Local 577 and Local 556 – including Local 577 President Christa Gifford and Local 577 Recording Secretary Klarissa Principe – attended a Rodbusters Rally in Las Vegas supporting Ironworkers.



Local 250A Graduates

Congratulations to the graduating class of Spring 2022! On March 29, 28 members of Local 250A graduated from the San Francisco Metropolitan Transit Authority (SFMTA) training program.



Graduates of the Spring 2022 SFMTA Training Program



Local 1400 Member Donates Stem Cells, Saves A Life

In December 2013, Local 1400 member and Lincoln Tunnel Crew Chief, Ed Schuyler, married and the father of two daughters and a son, joined the Bone Marrow Match Registry to help find a match for his father's NY Fire Department colleague who had 9/11 related cancer.

In January 2018, Schuyler received a call that he was a potential match for one-year-old girl who needed a stem cell transplant. After three months of tests and interviews to ensure that Schuyler was in fact a match and healthy enough to donate, he donated stem cells on April 30, 2018. The lucky little girl received Schuyler's stem cells a day later on May 1.

The match registry requires a one year waiting period for an option for donor and recipient to meet. In February 2020, contact was made, Schuyler was able

to talk to the mother of the one-year-old recipient and learned the transplant was a success. However, due to Covid, they could not meet in person.

In February of this year, Schuyler and the recipient's family were able to finally meet with the help of the Paul Luisi Foundation, a foundation to help fight pediatric cancer, which also helped the family when the one-year-old was seriously ill. Schuyler and his family were invited to the Paul Luisi Foundation's annual Gift of Life Gala honoring donors and recipients.

"TWU Local 1400 is extremely proud of Crew Chief Schuyler and his selfless stem cell donation that helped this little girl in need," said Local 1400 President Patrick Reynolds. "Our Executive Board will be attending the gala to support Schuyler and encourage others to help people in need."

Local 591 Swear In

Executive Board members of Local 591 were sworn in on May 11 by International Rep Tony McCoy.



Changes to IEC&B

Members of the International Administrative Council made changes to the International Executive Council and Board at the Summer IEC meeting in Nashville.

Local 556 President Lyn Montgomery moved from the Executive Council to the Executive Board.

Local 291 Executive Vice President Joe D'Elia joined the Executive Board, replacing Local 700 President Robert Taylor III, who passed away in April.

D'Elia was sworn in by International Administrative Vice President Curtis Tate on May 17.



Local 557 Swear In

International Rep Jose Galarza swore in members of Local 557's Executive Board on May 10. Local 557 represents Flight Dispatchers at Southwest Airlines.



Local 171 President Delisa Brown Honored

Local 171 President Delisa Brown was honored at the Summer IEC meeting in Nashville on May 18. The six-term president was recognized for her selfless dedication serving the union.

International Rep Carl Martin gave Brown the plaque, flanked by leaders of the TUUS Division and IAC.



In November 2021, President Biden signed the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)*, representing the largest infrastructure investment in our nation's history. The *IIJA*, also known as the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)*, creates and sustains more than 750,000 jobs – including tens of thousands of good, TWU jobs. The *IIJA* includes provisions for preventing assaults on transit workers, workforce development grants for training at transit agencies looking toward electric bus deployment, as well as historic investments in Amtrak's Northeast Corridor and its National Network. Following these successful policy programs on the surface transportation side, TWU Government Affairs has begun preparations for advancing the TWU Air Division's priorities through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization.

Committees with FAA oversight and jurisdiction, from both chambers of Congress, have started outreach to aviation stakeholders, requesting ideas, proposals, and priorities for 2023 FAA reauthorization. U.S. Senate and House committee staff recognize the TWU's unique position in the industry; we represent members across 17 different airlines working in virtually every class and craft in aviation. The TWU perspective allows us to identify systemic issues and to propose policies that set industry standards across the entire sector.

To have a comprehensive FAA reauthorization bill by the deadline, TWU Government Affairs has recently submitted proposals to committee staff. Over the coming months, committee staff will meet with aviation stakeholders to discuss proposals in greater detail, with specific topics for reauthorization potentially explored through committee hearings beginning later this year. Both chambers will look to begin 2023 with draft FAA reauthorization language to give the legislative process ample time to run its course before the current FAA authorization expires September 30, 2023.

Preventing Assaults on Airline Workers

For customer facing employees in the airline industry, assaults on frontline workers have reached a critical level. To address the issue, the TWU has been involved on several fronts. Legislatively, the TWU engaged early in drafting of the *Protection from Abusive Passenger Act (H.R.7433/S.4019)*. This bill would prohibit violent passengers from utilizing the national airspace after they have been convicted or fined for assaulting, interfering with, or intimidating airline crews, TSA agents, and airport workers with security duties. Additionally,

the TWU has called on Congress to provide flight attendants with required crew member self-defense training tailored to the passenger aircraft environment. This type of training will improve flight attendant capabilities in deterring attackers by providing appropriate and effective responses to an assailant, including the use of force and appropriate restraint techniques.

On the regulatory side, we look to build upon the Employee Assault Prevention and Response Plans (EAPRP), passed as part of 2018 FAA reauthorization, yet remains unimplemented. EAPRPs require airlines to develop response plans to address worker assault; while most airlines have submitted their plans, FAA has shown an inability to evaluate and enforce them. Together, these policies provide frontline aviation workers with a critical level of protection from known abusive passengers, provide flight attendants with tools necessary to address them, and make our airports and aircraft safer for workers and the traveling public.

Safe Aircraft Maintenance

High on the list of TWU priorities is closing loopholes that allow foreign aircraft repair stations to operate on a lower standard than U.S. facilities. The *Global Aircraft Safety Improvement Act (H.R. 7321)*, which directly addresses this issue, was recently passed by a House committee and would ensure that one standard of safety and security applies to aircraft maintenance. Currently, the FAA exempt maintenance facilities it certifies outside of the U.S. from security background checks for workers, risk-based safety and security evaluations for foreign facilities, employee drug and alcohol testing, unannounced FAA inspections, and certification standards for mechanics and technicians. The collective weight of these exemptions has created a structural disadvantage for U.S.-based maintenance workers and has incentivized offshoring of American jobs. Reversing this devastating trend is a top TWU priority (see page 16 for more).

Protecting State-level Labor Protections for Airline Workers

The TWU has led efforts across the country to increase family and medical leave, meal & rest breaks, and other labor protections for workers. Airline management has fought against these provisions every step of the way and now have a lawsuit *continues on page 22*

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latest news &
updates, visit
www.twu.org



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Taking on AMFA Campaign Comes Out Swinging

As part of the ongoing effort to combat years of misinformation and distorted facts that AMFA has spread throughout the aviation maintenance world, the TWU's campaign to take on AMFA came out swinging this spring.

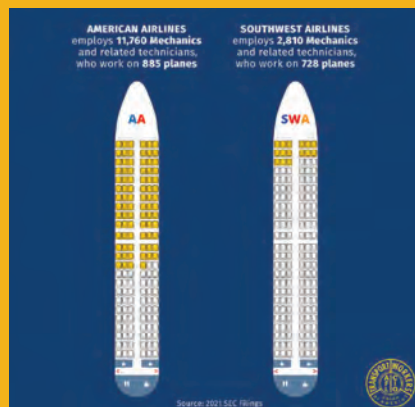
On social media we shared several graphics, dispelling myths AMFA has been telling. Our members have told us how surprised they are at learning the truth about how poor AMFA's track record is. This has even led to the formation of a committee of Southwest Mechanic and Related workers looking to now join the TWU!

The graphics were shared on social media accounts created for the campaign. To stay in touch on Facebook

or Twitter, follow @SWA4TWU and @AMFA2022AA. There is also a webpage, www.twu.org/taking-on-amfa/, that you can visit for the latest campaign information.

For May 24, Aircraft Maintenance Technician Day, the TWU rented several standard, as well as mobile billboards around the Tulsa International Airport, where we have a large crew of maintenance technicians working for American Airlines.

TWU International leadership, Organizing and Communications staff traveled to Tulsa on May 26 to visit members and show appreciation. You can check out all the photos below!





Locals from All Divisions Attend Annual Secretary-Treasurer Training

TWU Secretary Treasurers and Officers from all Divisions attended the annual Secretary-Treasurer Training at the Maritime Institute (CCMIT), a residential training center run by the Master, Mates and Pilots Union, AFL-CIO, in Linthicum, MD, from May 23-27. A total of 17 locals participated in the training. It's of the utmost importance that officers are fully aware and understand their fiduciary responsibilities. Additionally, officers must understand the procedures and requirements under the DOL rules and the TWU constitution. Accordingly, we must fully train TWU officers to carry out these duties, procedures and requirements.

International Secretary-Treasurer Jerome Lafragola, Trainer Gary Shults, and Accounting Directors Justin Rogers and Ralph Adams led a series of exercises and trainings covering the following subjects:

- Fiduciary responsibilities DOL and IRS requirements
- QuickBooks overview

- QuickBooks local file installation
- QuickBooks practice set transactions
- Banking and reconciliations
- Preparing financial statements
- Credit card transactions
- Payroll information and processing
- Security and multi-user application
- Working with reports
- QuickBooks utilities
- Year-end procedures
- Future financial planning
- Bill.com

Participants also created checks, assigned expenditures to accounts, balanced banking accounts and created reports.

“The training provides a solid foundation to build upon,” said Lafragola.





2022 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Established in 1969, the Michael J. Quill Scholarship Fund provides 15 scholarships worth \$4,800 to college-bound dependents of TWU members. It is paid out every year in the amount of \$1,200 to winners who continue to be eligible over their four-year course of study. The money is paid directly to the recipient's accredited college or university and may be used for tuition, college fees, or room and board while pursuing an undergraduate degree.

The TWU's leadership remains committed to honoring

the tradition of investing in the education of our members' children and is grateful to be joined in this noble endeavor. This year, we were honored to have four additional scholarship sponsors, which added another 21 scholarships: Union Benefit Planners, M3Technology, Pitta LLP, and Pitta Bishop & Del Giorno LLC. All of the above sponsored scholarships will be paid out in the first year, as a single scholarship. Below is a list of all the 2022 recipients. The winners were announced on June 1.

Michael J. Quill Scholarship Winners – \$4,800 *(paid out \$1,200 per year for 4 years)*

- Aidan C. Abbott, (son of Amanda Abbott), Local 556
- Richard J. Buehler, (son of Mark Buehler), Local 290
- Gabriella L. Fink-Rojas, (daughter of Sonya Brazeal), Local 556
- Oscar M. Franco, (son of Eric Franco), Local 591
- Anysa E. Hardin, (daughter of Tracy Hardin), Local 514
- Andrea C. Hunt, (daughter of Karen Hunt), Local 577
- Alexander L. Martin, (son of Glenn Martin), Local 513
- Dylan J. Maxwell, (son of Willard Maxwell), Local 100
- Makayla J. Place, (daughter of Jackie Place), Local 556
- Josette M. Rivera, (daughter of Manuel Rivera), Local 100
- Divyani Singh, (daughter of Balram Singh), Local 200
- Tionni Smith, (daughter of Donald Smith), Local 100
- Summer J. Spiteri, (daughter of Darrin Spiteri), Local 100
- Audrienn E. Szanyi, (daughter of Gyorgy Szanyi), Local 548
- Jack R. Zieba, (son of Pete Zieba), Local 512

Union Benefit Planners – \$2,500 *(one-time scholarship)*

- Joseph A. Boutros, (son of Anthony Boutros), Local 591
- Drew A. Dittes, (daughter of Brian Dittes), Local 567
- Javen J. Griffith, (son of Steven Griffith), Local 100

- Guy Harris Jr., (son of Guy Harris), Local 234
- Eric J. Jaikaran, (son of Ramnarine Jaikaran), Local 100
- Lauren P. Jones, (daughter of Dodgrey Jones), Local 510
- Amelia R. Kugler, (daughter of Edward Kugler), Local 591
- Sarah J. Leardi, (daughter of Peter Leardi), Local 572
- John R. Sikorski, (son of Stephen Piccinich), Local 1400
- Elizabeth A. Webster, (daughter of Jeff Webster), Local 591

M3Technology – \$2,000 *(one-time scholarship)*

- Camille B. Brown, (daughter of Phillip Brown), Local 101
- Kaleb J. Burch, (son of Jennifer Dingler), Local 514
- Gianna DeVito, (daughter of Pietro DeVito), Local 501
- Braeden J. Ruiz, (son of Jose Ruiz), Local 100
- Brody W. Sappington, (son of Dustie Sappington), Local 514

Pitta LLP – \$2,500 *(one-time scholarship)*

- Yorkhar Torres, (son of Hugo Torres), Local 100

Pitta Bishop & Del Giorno LLC – \$2,500 *(one-time scholarship)*

- Nathanael V. Santillana, (son of Freddy Santillana), Local 100

STATE CONFERENCES

NY/NJ State Conference Meets at Local 1400

On March 29, the NY/NJ State Conference met for the time in two years. The meeting took place at TWU Local 1400's Office.



Nevada State Conference

Nevada State Conference members with Nevada AFL-CIO Executive Secretary Treasurer Susie Martinez.



State Conferences Prepare for 2022 Elections

The TWU state conferences are gearing up for the 2022 election cycle. Please scan the QR code to learn more about the conference and how to get involved!

Pictured are members of the Florida State Conference and the Texas/Oklahoma State Conference.





At left, AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler and TWU President John Samuelsen chat at the TWU's booth. Above, TWU International Administrative Vice President Curtis Tate (second from left) on the Unity Stage at the AFL-CIO Convention.

TWU Moves & Shakes at AFL-CIO Convention

The TWU Moves America, and attendees of the AFL-CIO Convention in Philadelphia, June 12-15, agreed.

On the main convention stage, President John Samuelsen took part in a “Fireside Chat” along with AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler, AFT President Randi Weingarten, SAG-AFTRA President Gabrielle Carteris and UNITE HERE International President D. Taylor. The chat showcased the AFL-CIO’s newly created Technology Institute, which is a hub for union collaboration on innovation and technology policy, bargaining, organizing, worker training and just transition, and innovation research and development.

“The negative impact of automation goes beyond robots,” Samuelsen explained. “There are powerful financial forces that want to eliminate the human presence within our transit systems and within all of transportation. Only those who fight back are going to win.”

International Administrative Vice President Curtis Tate participated in a discussion on the Unity Stage titled, *Spotlight on Labor Engagements with Carnegie Mellon University: Get Ahead of Tech*, which highlighted our Transportation Technology campaign and the need to get ahead of new technology, as well as ensuring it does not replace jobs.

The TWU collaborated with Carnegie Mellon on a

recently published a white paper declaring that “transit vehicles, including buses and vans will be highly likely to continue to require skilled human operators, even as autonomous vehicle capabilities are incorporated.”

“Technology is here. You can stand there and let it happen like a tsunami or you can get proactive. We can’t sit on our hands,” Tate said, noting the significance of keeping a human operator on board. “Nobody does what we do better than us. You talk to an operator, and they tell you every day they do something outside their job. Technology is used to make our jobs better and safer, not to replace our jobs.”

Our union’s Transit Technology campaign was also spotlighted with a popular booth (see p. 21 for more info).

The TWU’s Assault Won’t Fly campaign also made a splash in Philadelphia.

Flight attendant members from Locals 556, 577 and JetBlue, handed out literature and bag tags. Local actions were held in Fort Lauderdale on June 14 and Dallas on June 15.

Visit our one-stop shop for resources, AssaultWontFly.com, for details on the campaign, as well as links to support the *Abuse from Protective Passengers Act* and our Flight Attendant Bill of Rights.



Air Division Director Gary Peterson with Local 577 President Christa Gifford, Vice President Raychel Armstrong and Recording Secretary Klarissa Principe; and Local 556 Second Vice President Corliss King



TWU members at a Day of Action promoting the Assault Won't Fly campaign at Dallas Love Field.

Our Multi-Pronged Approach to Fighting Toxic Cabin Air

The TWU has been the main advocate against the effects of toxic cabin air for the past three years. We've taken the bull by the horns and have spearheaded the issue via a multi-pronged approach:

- Legislatively, by calling for the passage of the *Cabin Air Safety Act*
- Raising awareness on the ground, with our Cabin Crew members documenting toxic fume events, and
- Taking preventative measures, with our Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) members at American Airlines who have ensuring that aircraft is maintained properly so toxic fume events are less likely to happen.

TWU Members Brad Brugger, Harry Charalambous, Doug Housley and Joe Absalon, who make up the ASAP team at American Airlines, work together to help advise their fellow AMTs who perform the work being done to help prevent toxic fume events from happening at the source.

Our TWU technicians from Locals 514, 567 and 591 have been working with American Airlines Engineering, Tech Ops planning

and the aircraft manufacturers to understand and mitigate the root cause of these noxious odors that have plagued the industry for years.

"This includes, improving maintenance and servicing procedures also contributing to design improvements in the affected systems of the aircraft," Brugger explained. "Sometimes the simplest approach is the most effective, so cleaning Auxiliary Power Unit (APU) intakes have yielded good results for reducing events."

"The TWU prides itself in leading the charge when it comes to the Safety and Health of our flight crews and passengers on the aircraft we maintain," Charalambous noted. "The TWU understands that we have an important role when it comes to identifying and correcting risks in the daily operations of commercial aviation."

The TWU and American Airlines have led the industry in the efforts to reduce and eliminate toxic fume events. In fact, over the last few years there's been over a 50% reduction in toxic fume events on aircraft maintained by our AMTs. Largely, the aircraft systems and design are the reason for fume events.

For updates, visit www.twu.org/toxic-cabin-air/.

Bill to Raise Standards for Aircraft Maintenance Passes Committee

On June 15, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee advanced the Global Aircraft Safety Improvement Act (H.R. 7321, formerly known as the Safe Aircraft Maintenance Standards Act) by an overwhelming, bipartisan vote. The TWU, the nation's largest airline union, strongly supports this essential bill.

We have been the leading voice for this legislation since it was first introduced in 2019. It will raise safety standards for U.S.-flagged aircraft maintained abroad to bring them in line with domestically maintained aircraft. This will not only better ensure the safety and security of frontline aviation workers and the flying public, but also remove incentives in our regulations for airlines to offshore aircraft maintenance.

We appreciate the leadership of Chairman Peter DeFazio (D-OR) and Representative John Katko (R-NY) who have tirelessly fought with us for these changes since the beginning. We also appreciate the partnership of Ranking Members Sam Graves (R-MO) and Garrett Graves (R-LA), who worked with us to advance this consensus legislation with five votes in committee.

The Global Aircraft Maintenance Safety Improvement Act closes all five regulatory gaps that allow a lower safety standard for aircraft maintenance and incentivize airlines to offshore this work:

- Drug and alcohol testing for safety sensitive personnel
- Background checks for workers at maintenance facilities
- Security threat assessments for these facilities
- Unannounced inspections for maintenance operations
- Minimum qualifications for aircraft mechanics

"The TWU is the union who fought and won, bringing back offshored American Airline aircraft maintenance work back into the U.S. Every airline in the country should be living up to the same standards for maintenance and this bill will finally make that ideal a reality. This Global Aircraft Maintenance Safety Improvement Act will help ensure that all U.S. aircraft maintenance work, no matter where it's performed, is held our safety and security standards," said President John Samuelsen.

"The FAA should never have allowed these loopholes to open in the first place. Each of these gaps incentivizes airlines to offshore maintenance into countries with lower safety standards, putting lives at risk," he continued. "The overwhelming, bipartisan vote in the committee demonstrates the widespread support we have for returning airline mechanic jobs to USA soil. The TWU is now calling on the Congress to pass this bill immediately to ensure one level of safety and security in our airspace."

TWU Locals 514, 591, 567 Participate in 2022 Aerospace Maintenance Competition



The LAX Crew



The MCT Tech Warriors



Team AA Chicago



Team Tulsa



Women in Tech-Ops

After a two-year hiatus, the Aerospace Maintenance Competition (AMC) was back in action, April 25-28 in Dallas. TWU members from Locals 514, 567, & 591 participated, among the six teams sent by American Airlines, in a variety of aviation maintenance task-oriented challenges.

In the overall maintenance repair overhaul (MRO) category, TWU members from Team Tulsa placed second and the DWH Air Raiders placed third. Congratulations to all TWU our mechanics who participated in these events!

TWU Local 592 Members at Alaska Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines, Ratify TAs

On March 31, TWU Local 592 members who work as Aircraft Dispatchers for Alaska Airlines ratified their tentative agreement with an 80 percent vote.

"Congratulations for overwhelmingly ratifying your new contract," said TWU Local 592 President Jenny Schar. "It provides industry competitive wages at all steps in scale, improves our benefits, and adds other quality-of-life enhancements which our members value."

"Early on, both sides of the negotiating table agreed on the industry analysis each of us had independently performed, which helped us reach an agreement in-line with our amendable date," said TWU International Vice President and Air Division Director Gary Peterson. "The TWU was impressed with the logic-based approach taken in these negotiations by the Alaska negotiators."

On April 22, TWU Local 592 members who work as Flight Dispatchers for Hawaiian Airlines ratified an epic agreement with an 80 percent vote.

The five-year, industry-leading contract includes major increases to base wages, premiums, retirement, and all-in wage increases (inclusive of license and longevity) ranging from 16.8 percent to 34.7 percent.

"This is a contract we are immensely proud of," said Peterson. "A union contract is the only way to achieve economic security – and this one will pave the way for generations to come."

Schar stated, "We fought long and hard at the bargaining table and were able to secure this stellar contract. Our members will receive what they so rightfully deserve."

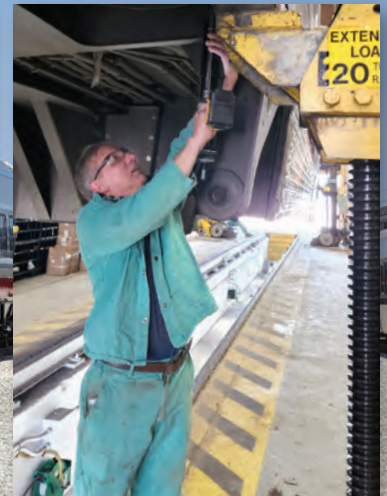
Local 2003 Members Keep Beech Grove Shop Buzzing

For the past hundred years, members of TWU Local 2003 have been keeping the Beech Grove Shop – Amtrak’s largest railway maintenance overhaul shop just outside Indianapolis – buzzing with dedicated activity.

Members at the shop perform a wide variety of crafts to keep America’s national rail system moving, including stripping down and refurbishing, inspecting, painting, trimming, and cleaning all types of railway cars, getting them in tip-top shape.

“I am 77 and could have retired a long time ago, but I enjoy doing work always and I appreciate all the knowledge,” said Tom McFarland, a TWU Local 2003 member for the past 38 years. “The people I work with are great. We work well together among each other and get things done.”

Check out the photos of the members on the job! To view the complete album, visit bit.ly/beechgrovephotos.



Amtrak Carmen Apprenticeship Program

On April 25, Railroad Division Director John Feltz and TWU International Railroad Representative Brian DeLucia addressed the inaugural class of the Carmen Apprenticeship Program. About a dozen Local 2003 members who are currently Coach Cleaners are enrolled in the program to train to become Carmen at the Beech Grove Shop in Indiana.

“This can be a life-long career. It’s hard work and long hours, not a typical 9 to 5 job, but the benefits are worth it,” Feltz said. “This is a true pathway to get you to provide more for your families.

“Coach Cleaners always will be the nearest part to my heart,” he explained. “Your job is so important. When people get on the train, they see your work. We all need and want advancement. We want everyone to succeed.



We don’t want you to get stuck with a bad mentor – we want you to be able to get the support you need.”

Feltz also gave a presentation on the TWU’s fighting history.

Coordinated Bargaining Coalition Update

The united Rail Unions issued the following statement on June 15:

Following the conclusion of our third week of compulsory mediation conducted by the National Mediation Board (NMB), the Rail Unions who are bargaining as part of the Coordinated Bargaining Coalition and the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way/SMART Mechanical Coalition pursuant to Section 5 First of the Railway Labor Act, received a proffer of arbitration from the NMB.

As previously stated, all the Carriers’ proposals to date serve as an insult to our collective membership. These essential employees carried the railroads to their record profits throughout the last several years. As much as the Rail Unions would have preferred to reach a voluntary settlement, this has become the only viable path to reaching a satisfactory conclusion. The Chiefs of all 12 Rail Unions wish to thank the NMB Members and the assigned Mediators for their efforts in trying to bring us to a voluntary agreement, and for their recognition that such an agreement was not possible under the current circumstances.

With regard to the proffer of arbitration, the NMB urged the parties to enter into an agreement to resolve the dispute via binding arbitration in accordance with Section 8 of the Railway Labor Act. If either party rejects the NMB’s proffer or fails to respond prior to the deadline of 5:00 p.m. (EDT) on June 16, 2022, the parties will enter a 30-day “cooling off” period where the status quo is maintained. While each Rail Union has its own process for considering whether or not to accept the NMB’s proffer, it is anticipated that we will unanimously reject it in the coming days.

At any point during the aforementioned 30-day cooling



off period, President Biden may appoint a Presidential Emergency Board (PEB), which typically consists of three to five members. The PEB will conduct a hearing and issue a recommendation regarding settlement of the dispute. The issuance of the PEB recommendation starts another 30-day cooling off period.

During this second cooling-off period, the parties may choose to accept or reject the PEB’s recommendation. If either party rejects the PEB’s recommendation, or if the cooling off period expires and the dispute has not been resolved, either party may engage in self-help.

If this happens, it is expected that Congress will intervene and end self-help by passing legislation to resolve the dispute. To address this possibility, we have already mobilized our Legislative departments to get the message to our elected representatives. In addition to these efforts, we are urging our members to begin reaching out to their U.S. Senators and House Representatives to voice their support for a labor-friendly PEB, and if necessary, labor-friendly legislation to bring this round of bargaining to a successful conclusion. The time to make our collective voices heard is now!

Additional information will be provided as developments warrant. We appreciate your continuing support.

Local 101 Rallies to Save Jobs



Local 101 President Constance Bradley addresses the crowd



International President John Samuelson speaks to the crowd

On May 4, TWU Local 101 rallied in Brooklyn, New York to oppose a proposed climate plan that would bar new natural-gas service to existing and newly constructed buildings beginning in 2024 and ban gas appliances entirely by 2030. The proposal, if enacted, would wipe out thousands of good union jobs.

"We've seen this movie before with NAFTA: Working Americans getting screwed by empty promises. We all want a greener world for our children, but not off the blue-collar jobs that working communities are built upon," said President Samuelson.



Local 101 President Constance Bradley with members and supporters



New Yorkers rally to support good, union jobs

Meet the TUUS Division

Meet the Transit, Universities, Utilities and Services International Staff.



**Curtis Tate, International
Administrative Vice President**



**Willie Brown, TUUS Division
Director**



**Carl Martin,
International Rep**



**Theotis James,
International Rep**



**Jose Cruz,
International Rep**



**Cassandra Gilbert,
International Rep**



**Shavon Gibson,
Administrative Professional**

Transportation Technology Campaign Makes Splash at AFL-CIO Convention

The TWU's Transportation Technology Campaign made a splash at the AFL-CIO Convention in Philadelphia with our dynamic booth. International staff handed out informational postcards, signed up attendees to receive the monthly newsletter and screened a new video outlining our efforts.

We also launched a new website, www.twu.org/transportation-technology-campaign/, which is a one-stop shop for all campaign resources, including the new video and a button to sign up to receive the newsletter. Go check it out!



Government Affairs Update

continued from page 21

pending before the U.S. Supreme Court asking to invalidate all state- and local-level labor protections for airline workers. We expect that they will continue this fight on the federal level. The TWU and our allies will aggressively fight any effort to take rights away from our members.

Workplace Health & Safety Standards

The TWU has identified several safety and security concerns at two airlines that allow aircraft dispatching from remote locations. FAA conditional approval occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic as airlines looked to use social distancing requirements as a means for implementing this unsafe practice. The TWU will look to address this issue in FAA reauthorization, working to ensure this unsafe practice does not become an industry norm for aircraft dispatching.

This spring the *Cabin Air Safety Act of 2022* was introduced. Almost identical to previous versions, the bill requires cabin air sensors in the aircraft to detect the presence of harmful and/or toxic fumes that bleed off the aircraft engines when they malfunction. Crew member training on identifying these engine bleed events, reporting requirements, and tracking are also included in the bill. The 2022 version is a title 49 amendment which will allow for easy slotting into an FAA reauthorization bill.

The TWU continues to work with our labor allies in the fight back against the Flags of Convenience business model from taking hold in the airline industry. Flags of Convenience undermine labor standards as they permit air carriers to forum shop for lower labor standards and avoid tax and regulations of their home country. Currently, the TWU and our labor allies have worked to limit foreign air carrier licensing unless the Department of Transportation places certain standards on pending permits.

Broadly speaking, this lays out our collective goals for the 2023 FAA reauthorization bill. This ambitious list represents nearly all our policy goals for the TWU Air Division that fall under FAA authority. While we have an objective to get all our priorities included, not everything we advocate for and advance will end up in the final comprehensive text. We continue to push Congress and government agencies to adopt policies that protect our members, create healthier and safer work environments, and set standards across the industry that ensure our jobs are good paying, union jobs.



Local 234 Shop Visit

International Communications staff visited Local 234 members on the job. You can view all the photos on our Flickr page. Here's a sneak peek!



The TWU Express is issued quarterly every year. Are you receiving the magazine in your mailbox every Spring, Summer, Winter and Fall? Do you have a co-worker who would like to read it?

Let's make sure we have your correct mailing address! Send an email to communications@twu.org with your name, local and mailing address and we will make sure you get on the list.

You can also read issues of the magazine anytime by visiting www.twu.org/express.

Local 577, Local 556, TWU GSAP Reps, Attend Aviation Safety InfoShare Meeting

Allegiant Airlines Flight Attendants, including Local 577 President Christa Gifford, Local 577 Vice President Raychel Armstrong and Local 577 member Kimberly Gorrell, along with Southwest Flight attendants Local 556 1st Vice President Michael Massoni, Local 556 members Jannah Dalak and Michele Moore, and TWU GSAP representatives Erick Burch and Mitch Lieberman at American Airlines, attended the Semi-Annual Aviation Info Share held in St. Louis, MO, April 26-28.

Aviation Safety InfoShare is a semiannual, confidential, industry-sponsored meeting attended by government and industry safety professionals who share their safety concerns and best practices in a protected environment. InfoShare offers a unique opportunity to advance aviation safety outside of individual air carriers and bring about improvements for the industry by sharing these experiences.

Participants at Aviation Safety InfoShare include representatives from:

- International, major, regional, corporate, and rotorcraft operators
- Pilot, aviation maintenance technician, dispatch, cabin, ground operations, and air traffic labor groups
- Aircraft manufacturers
- Maintenance repair and overhaul organizations
- Trade associations
- University aviation department
- Government agencies



Left to right: Local 577 member Kimberly Gorrell, GSAP Rep Erick Burch, Local 577 President Christa Gifford, GSAP Rep Mitch Lieberman, Local 556 Member Michele Moore, Local 556 1st VP Michael Massoni, Local 556 Jannah Dalak and Local 577 Vice President Raychel Armstrong.

On Juneteenth, the TWU Recommits Our Efforts to Fight for Equality

As America pauses to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States, we are reminded of just how far our country has come in our fight for liberty and justice for all. Simultaneously, we must also face the fact that nearly two and a half centuries after the Declaration of Independence was signed, many Americans are still subjected to the evilness of racial discrimination.

Fighting race-based hate is nothing new for the TWU. Our union was founded on the principles of dignity and respect for all, at a time in our country's history when race-hate was an accepted workplace practice. The TWU is proud to carry this fight forward, organizing workers in disadvantaged communities and ensuring equal treatment by winning solid collectively bargained agreements, and calling out hatred for the outrageous affront that it is.

On Juneteenth, and every day, we recommit to our efforts to fight against the scourge of race-hate. We will continue fighting for the principles the TWU was founded upon.



Local 100 Executive Board Update

On May 31, members of the Local 100 Executive Board voted to appoint Richard Davis as Secretary-Treasurer upon the retirement of Earl Phillips. Filling Davis's former spot as Vice President of MTA MABSTOA is Division Chair Donald Yates. They were sworn in by President Tony Utano.



Local 510 DCA President Honored on His Final Journey

On April 14, Hector Colon, Recording Secretary for the American Airlines Miami Honor Guard, honored retired Local 510 DCA President Richard Dawson with a plane side ceremony on his final journey home. Local 568 Executive Board member John Gorski escorted him home to DCA on AA Flight 2877.



Veteran's Committee Elects New Officers

Members of the TWU Veteran's Committee met in Miami on March 8 and March 9, hosted by Local 568. Officer elections took place at the meeting. The new board is as follows:

- Chair: Chris Kiernan was elected for a second term (Local 501 Executive Board member)
- Co- Chair: Luis Mercado was elected (Local 252 Executive Board member)
- Recording Secretary: Charlana Bilodeau was elected for a third term (Local 555 Veterans Committee Chair)



Local 291 member Steve Losos, Local 512 member George Volki, Local 512 President Juan Elvira and Local 513 member Sean Deeks



Veteran's Committee Vice Chair and Local 252 member Luis Mercado, Local 252 member Kirk D. Hobbs, Local 100 member D'Artagnan Magana, Local 568 member Eric Espillat and Local 574 member William J. Dowling



Local 570 member Kenneth Munnings, Local 556 member Danette Y. Foster and Local 570 member Deryck John



Local 568 member Hector Colon, Veteran's Committee Chair and Local 501 member Chris Kiernan and Local 501 member Brian Galarza



Local 568 member Kevin Starling, Local 548 member Mike Gallardo and Local 514 member Tracy Hardin



Local 570 member Jesus M. Martinez and Local 591 member Steve Losos



Local 260 member Fidel C. Minor and Veteran's Committee Chair and Local 501 member Chris Kiernan



Members of the TWU Veteran's Committee

Future Leaders Organizing Committee Thrives at Spring Meeting

Nearly 75 members of the Future Leaders Organizing Committee (FLOC) packed a room near International headquarters in Washington, DC from March 21 to March 24 for their Spring meeting.

The three-day conference featured hands-on workshops, including a very popular Mock Arbitration. Participants were enthusiastically engaged and left the meeting filled with knowledge of how to best beat back bosses.

The summer meeting was held June 28-30 in Miami, hosted by Local 568. Stay tuned for coverage in the next issue!



COMMITTEE UPDATES



Members of the Working Women's Committee along with Councilwoman Angie Reyes-English (near center with TWU beanie).

Working Women's Committee Meets in Long Beach

About 75 members of the Working Women's Committee (WWC) met in Long Beach, CA from April 5 to April 7 for their Spring meeting, hosted by Local 502.

"This is about teaching, learning and conversation. I see the future of the leadership in this room," said Local 502 President Andre Sutton. "Here you will find tools to groom yourself for the next level – take those tools back to your local and implement them."

The first day of the conference featured a variety of speakers. Jamie Fatheree from the American Airlines Credit Union gave a presentation on "Financial Wellness by the Decades," advice on how to best take care of your savings through each stage of your life.

Perika Sampson, Global Head of Inclusion and Diversity Gilead Sciences spoke about how to check your bias, and how you manage and own it.

Councilwoman Angie Reyes-English shared her inspiring story of how she overcame obstacles – including experiencing homelessness – to reach her goals. She encouraged women to consider running for public office, "if you have the will and the passion to make effective change in the community you live, play or work."

Day two began with a presentation on the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) by Local 100 member Celeste Kirkland.

"Organizing, fighting against bosses, political action, door knocking, really into the union. It's a perfect fit: I'm a fighter and this union has a fightback spirit," she said. "CLUW, founded in 1974...empowers women for greater participation levels in the labor movement, organizing, and fighting for social and economic justice in the workplace. As women, sometimes obstacles and barriers are put in place to push us down. We need to come together to build political power."

Nadia Parada of the Women's Shelter of Long Beach gave a presentation on domestic violence and domestic violence and homelessness.

To end the morning session, Local 556 Member Ashley Wilhelm led a high-energy kickboxing workout outdoors.

That afternoon, Felicia Devo & Jamie Vinck from Recovery Ways, answered questions about addiction and mental health.

Local 591 members Kenneth Morse and Tony Lepore, who is also Director of the TWU Tech Ops EAP Program talked about the program and how it promotes "interconnectivity."

"We know a lot of our coworkers are hurting and suffering and they don't know which direction to turn," Morse said. "There are more women in Maintenance and Stores, if you ever want to become an EAP please let us know."

For more info, visit www.laborassistanceprofessionals.com.

The third and final day kicked off with a presentation from Wilhelm. This time she gave a fascinating overview of "A Day in the Life of a Flight Attendant," along with a history of air travel.

"You never know what's going to happen at the airport or the airplane. You just never know," Wilhelm said, adding that she loves her job because she is able to "bring a part of my personality to the aircraft and don't have to be stuck in a prototypical box" and has made "lifelong friends."

The meeting ended with a talk from Los Angeles Police Department Captain Chris Waters, Commanding Officer over the Juvenile Division President of the Southern California Chapter of Black Law.

The Summer WWC meeting is scheduled to take place in Texas at the end of July, hosted by Local 260.

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**“TWU Local 502 taking pride
in COPE membership!”**