



Motion Picture & Theatrical Division

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# Teamsters Local 399 NewsReel

Secretary-Treasurer Leo T. Reed

Spring 2011





# A HISTORIC EVENT

## Message from the Secretary-Treasurer

By Leo T. Reed

*I am very proud of the 5,000 Teamsters— more than 250 from this local with their families and friends—who felt the issues were important enough to commit their time on a Saturday and march for jobs and union rights. This publication reports on the issues and event and pays tribute to those who participated.*

### WHY WE MARCHED

We have reached a critical point in American labor union history. Historians will look back at this period and report that the United States either considered or abandoned its working men and women.

The questions before us are important.

Will corporate America forgo some of its exorbitant profits to create jobs? Will government provide the direction and incentives to get this done?

Will politicians attempting to strip union members of their rights to negotiate a contract succeed? Will events that began in Wisconsin spread? Will the raid on public sector unions spread to the private sector?

### JOBS, JOBS, JOBS

We are marching for jobs. We want to deliver an important message. Jobs stimulate the economy and wages help both workers and their neighborhoods.

What can be done? Corporate America can stop subcontracting work to foreign countries. The state and federal

government must do their share by guaranteeing loans to innovative businesses that put local people to work. There must be subsidies to companies that keep their employees working – both here in California and across America. There must also be penalties for employers that hide their true motives using the excuse of globalization.

That's why tens of thousands of union members participated in this historic march. Our local was there to dramatize the issues – especially keeping our work at home through subsidies and incentives. We are very proud to participate in this event – proud of all our Teamster brothers and sisters.

### THE THREAT TO UNIONS

Another important reason we marched is the threat to the union movement based on events around the country. The Governor of Wisconsin recently pushed through a law in his state that limits public union members ability to collectively bargain contracts and



severely cuts their benefits. Similar legislation is threatening workers in Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire and Ohio. We need to make sure it does not happen in California to members.

We remain committed to protecting our members, and will continue working with all levels of government to bring industry jobs back to Los Angeles. Stay tuned for upcoming events.









## Local 399 Joins



Local 399 drivers, location managers, casting directors, staff and families joined more than 15,000 union members and their families in a historic march and rally that is invigorating the labor movement.

Proudly marching behind a 15-foot-wide 'Hollywood Teamsters' banner, more than 250 Local 399 Teamsters took part in a powerful display of union strength and unity to help stop the current 'War on Workers.' They were among the estimated 5,000 Teamsters who took part in the impressive downtown march from Staples Center to Pershing Square, where a massive rally was held at mid-day.

Local 399 members were clearly visible and heard. In identical black T-shirts saying 'The Fight Is On' they chanted such important messages as "Film L.A.,

Hollywood Teamsters, Teamster Power, and 3-9-9."



The Los Angeles union march with the public rally was one of the most historic labor events in decades. It was a dramatic testa-

ment of the reality that labor is now taking the offensive. Such strong union involvement brought attention to two important issues:

— Calling on the government and business community to redirect its profits and spending towards efforts that actually create new jobs and preserve existing ones.

— Protecting union members' right to collective bargaining. An alarming and dangerous trend has begun in Wisconsin and a few other states to strip public employees of their already-negotiated union contracts and impose severe reductions in wages and benefits. Since then, twelve U.S. senators have introduced legislation to curtail unions' ability in the private sector to properly represent all the members.

Secretary-Treasurer Leo



# Historic March



Reed emphasized that a major part of protecting the jobs of union members in Los Angeles means attracting more union film and television productions to the city. “Our local is working closely with projects such as FilmLA to help bring productions back to Hollywood,” Reed explained. “It is not an easy process. On days like this, when you see the great power, determination and influence that the Teamsters have when we mobilize, it is clear to me that we can do it.”

Reed and his staff are also working within the political framework to increase subsidies and financial incentives for films that agree to shoot in Hollywood.

“What happened in Wisconsin and a few other states was an attack on public sector employees, but it could end up affecting us in the private sector also,”

Secretary-Treasurer Leo Reed said after the march. “We have to make sure that hard working middle class

threatened by the recent attacks on labor. Once at Pershing Square, the march turned into a rally and



union members are protected, both here and around the country.”

Teamsters were joined at the big march and rally by laborers, electrical workers, nurses, pipefitters, firefighters, teachers and public employee unions that are also being

concert. Three bands played while union members stayed to talk with their fellow workers and friends. Teamster big-rigs from around the state lined streets surrounding the downtown square.

The variety of picket signs

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# Local 399 Joins Historic March

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the marchers carried reflected the mood and goals of the marchers. Individual picket signs such as Support Workers Rights, We Stand with Wisconsin, Protect the American Dream, Poverty Pay Is Not the American Way, Wall Street Steals while Main Street Starves were complemented by a 30 foot banner demonstrating and reflecting the strength of the Southern California labor movement, Teamsters Fight – Teamsters Win.

Teamsters International President James P. Hoffa, who joined the members in the historic march, told an enthusiastic audience, “We must stand together and fight to protect the middle class. Together they can’t beat us – together we will stop the war on

workers.”

Joint Council 42 President Randy Cammack was proud of the large Teamster turnout. “It was clear from the moment we joined the march that the Teamsters were the loudest here,” said Cammack. “It was great to see so many studio drivers, location managers and casting directors. The Hollywood Teamsters reaffirmed how powerful their voices are in this city’s politics.”

The rally was one of dozens of similar actions that took place all over the country in a union-sponsored ‘Solidarity Saturday.’ Rallies were held across the nation, from Florida and Washington State to South Carolina and California.

Union members at the successful marches recognize the dangers ahead if anti-union laws are put forward in other states, and they are ready to keep up the battle to reaffirm public support for collective bargaining.

The event began with a parking lot gathering and coffee and breakfast donated by Ray Bide-nost and the employees of Chef Robert Catering. Secretary-Treasurer Leo T. Reed thanked all the thousands of members and families who participated in the event.

• For additional photos visit [www.ht399.org](http://www.ht399.org) and visit Gallery.





# LOCAL 399 MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS HISTORIC EVENT

*Local 399 would like to thank the members and families who participated in this historic event:*

Jose Anaya, Nicole Arbusto, Sergio Arevalos, Luis Arroyo, Lyle Atkins, Joe Auger, Philip Bak, Tom Baker, Johnny Batiuk, Steve Beimler, Mike Belpedio, Greg Benton, Marilyn Bitner, Alasdair Boyd, Steve Bridgman, Bree Brozey, Alex Burns, Marvin Butler, Bruce Callahan, Jose Campos, Myleen Chapin, Deven Chierighino, Elisa Ann Conant, Mark Conroy, Vince Cortez, Tony Cousimano, Kim Crabb, Fermin Davalos, Stanford Davis, Bill Dawson, Steve Dayan, Debora Deibler, Manny DeMello, Howard Doing, Tim Down, Ed Duffy, Don Easy, Royale Edward, Bobby Enriquez, Rose Falcon, Michael Fennessey, Jack Fisher, Andrew Gardiner, Brett George, Karen Gilbert, Margaret Giordano, Vincent Giordano, Pete Giraldo, Robby Goldstein, Paul Gonzalez, Dan Gordon, James Grant, Gary Gregos, Nancy Haecker, Bobby Hall, Jason Han, Bonnie Harmon, Janet Harold, Sidney Highsmith, Timothy Hillman, Mark Holmes, Jon Hopton, Teri Lee Huff, Titus Humphrey, West Humphries, James Hunt, Orlando Hurtado, Charlie Jakab, Sergio Jimenez, Ilt Jones, Andree Juviler, Greg Karson, John Kemmler, Rory Kierans, Val Kim, John Kvammen, Valente Lamas, Ruth Lambert, Robert Lamkin, Vanessa LaTray, Shanda Laurent, Johannes Liotart, Noe Lopez, Terry Mack, Richard Maginnis, Tom Marchetti, Robert Marchetti, Lara Massengill, Laura Matteson, Byron McGee, Mark Mechelin, Paul Mendez, Ralph Meyer, Carlos Morante, George Nadian, Diego Orozco, Peter Pappas, Larry Pearson, William Peck, John Peters, Randy Peterson, Gaston Pierre, David Prescott, Leo Reed Jr., Leo Reed Sr., Joe Ripke, Tom Roberts, Randy Rodriguez, Ryen Rodriguez, George Rodriguez, Joe Rose, Hernan Sanchez, Brenda Santacruz, Herman Santana, Armando Santana, David Schramm, Marissa Schwierjohn, Robert Segletes, Anthony Shields, Don St. John, Damien Stafford, Duke Stevens, Jim Sullivan, Mike Swann, Martin Tajra, Alfred Tanoai, Marta Tomkiw, Tulima Tuanaki, Veronique Vowell, Mike Walsh, Gary Watts, Stephan Weissberger, John West, Martine White, Dewayne Williams, Carlos Williams & Mike Wilson.

*We are very sorry that we did not get the names of the family members and friends but we do have their pictures which are worth a thousand words.*



## TEAMSTERS LOCAL 399

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