

# Talking 241

*Talking Sense, Talking Union*



## UNION MEETING

In an effort to provide Local 241 members at PACE a better forum to discuss their issues, a Union meeting was held on February 12<sup>th</sup> at the Bellwood VFW. The Trustees are considering holding a PACE Union meeting at various locations to provide an opportunity for all PACE members to fully participate with Local 241. We encourage you to visit [www.atu241chicago.org](http://www.atu241chicago.org) or contact YOUR UNION OFFICE (312)341-1733 for updates on training classes. Or, check with the Assistant to the Trustees at your location.

## Legislative Alert

On February 2, the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure began consideration of the federal surface transportation bill (H.R. 7). The bill, which was drafted solely by the Republican majority, would strongly encourage public transit systems to contract out existing work. It also rejects language in HR 3200, critical legislation that would allow transit systems to use a portion of their federal funds for operating assistance. In the closest vote of the day, the committee rejected the amendment by a vote of 28-26. Remember in November, VOTE!

## Why Are We Emphasizing Training?

By International President Larry Hanley

Our International Union has established training as a top priority during the trusteeship of Local 241. It is the one way to ensure that the issues that brought about the trusteeship never occur here again.

For a union to work, like any other team, everyone must know and carry-out their responsibilities. Two of the main responsibilities for the Officers and the Executive Board of a Local Union, are to oversee the finances and grievance process. The membership is an integral part of our team that also requires training to understand and carry-out its responsibilities.

To facilitate this, our International Union has made a significant investment of staff and other resources in Local 241. We have begun the process of offering training to all members in processing grievances, the political economy, community involvement, basic leadership skills, running your union meetings, organizing rallies and dealing with PACE and the CTA. Our goal is to equip **you** to run Local 241 successfully.

We are rebuilding Local 241. This is an exciting and powerful opportunity to better understand how to build a strong union, how to help members better exercise the rights they have at work and our obligations to each other.

Are **you** up for the challenge? If so bring a pen, an open mind, a dedicated heart and we will give you all the tools you need to make Local 241 the best Union it can be.

Please contact the International representatives or **Your**

## Drive cams

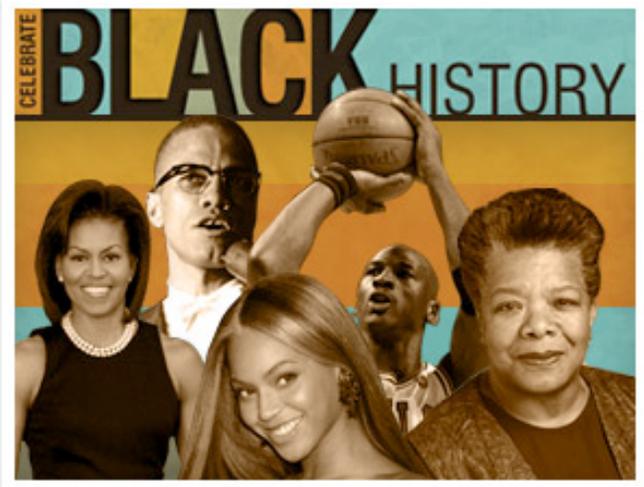
Since the implementation of drive cams by PACE, a serious disagreement has developed on the way drive cams are being used for disciplinary purposes and the way it was explained to members. An Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) was filed by the Union that is still in progress. It should be understood that a favorable ruling in a ULP would simply mean that PACE would be forced to negotiate the way drive cams are being used. In an effort to resolve this issue as quickly as possible, the Trustees have drafted language that

## BEST KNOWN FOR

Civil rights activist Rosa Parks refused to surrender her bus seat to a white passenger, spurring the Montgomery boycott and other efforts to end segregation.



Rosa Parks



## YOUR ASSISTANTS TO THE TRUSTEES

### WEST:

Ernest Jones

### NORTH SHORE:

Phil Carlson

Larry Threatt

Michael Purcell

### SOUTH WEST:

Candace Lewis

Caesarie Montgomery

Rick Chiaramonte

## PACE West Pension Statements

PACE West members informed the Trustees about pension statements not being sent out for nearly two years. After numerous phone calls and a few meetings to determine where the “bottleneck” existed, the pension statements are finally in the hands of PACE West members. Our thanks goes to Ernest Jones, Assistant to the Trustees, for pushing this issue.

## Weingarten Rights

When management begins to ask you questions that could lead to you being disciplined, you don't have to face it alone. If you have a reasonable belief that answers you give could be used by the supervisor to discipline you, the United States Supreme Court says you can refuse to answer any questions until a union representative is on the scene and has had a chance to talk things over with you first. It is your right to have the union representative present during the questioning to advise you, ask supervisors for clarifications, and provide additional information at the end of the session. The employee subject to the interview must reasonably believe that the investigatory interview will result in disciplinary action. A meeting called by the employer for the purpose of imposing discipline, is not an interview subject to Weingarten Rights.

## PACE WEST NEWS

By: Ernest Jones

Out at PACE West, we would like to welcome three new students, Don Cardine, Peter Cud and Angelique Johnson, to this garage, and look forward to working with them. We would like to inform all operators that the Spring Pick for full-time operators will be March 2<sup>nd</sup> and March 3<sup>rd</sup>. For part-timers, the pick will be March 6<sup>th</sup>. The pick goes into effect March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Finally, we would like to offer condolences to our members Brother Robert Loury, and Sister Lydia Karpitis, on the loss of their loved ones.