

# VOICE OF 294

*Serving our 5,500 members and families in over 16 counties in Upstate New York*  
TEAMSTERS LOCAL 294 NEWSLETTER - ALBANY, NEW YORK



## *From the desk of* **PRESIDENT TOM QUACKENBUSH**

Reflecting on our accomplishments since taking office on April 1, 2023, there have been plenty and I'd like to share with you, our members.

- We have successfully negotiated a historic contract for our members at UPS. This contract has paved the way and set a standard for so many of our other contracts in all industries we represent.
- We have created a yearly budget with Executive Board oversight.
- We created a full-time focus on organizing new members.
- We created the Teamsters Local 294 Volunteer Organizers' Committee with over 60 members already and hoping to grow to over 100.
- We created an Organizing Leads Incentive program of up to \$500.
- We have already organized many new groups including Villages of Cleveland and Speculator, Towns of Lenox, Fairfield, Caroga, Kingsbury, and New Baltimore, Millionaire clerical staff, Core-Mark, Herkimer County DPW, Canastota Dairy Products and Aramark.
- We have revived our Shop Steward Seminar, adding our Volunteer Organizers, to be held Saturday, April 6, 2024, at the Crowne Plaza.
- We have created a Teamsters Care Board that meets and approves disbursement of funds and plans events such as the Teamsters Local 294 and 317 Golf Outing and Scholarship program.
- We have planned our first Teamsters Care Annual Scholarship Dinner to be held on Thursday, June 13, 2024, at the Crowne Plaza.
- We have expanded our CDL A and B training programs through grants and we are also in the process of obtaining a mobile CDL Training Simulator. We are also now State-approved to test our students to obtain their license.
- We have revived our Teamster Local 294 Member Golf outing to be held on Saturday, June 8, 2024 at the Town of Colonie Golf Course, information to follow.
- We have created, through ID Resolutions, the ability for all members and their families to restore their identity if it's stolen.
- We have partnered with Halliday Financial to provide free financial planning to all of our members and their families with our first seminar to be held after the February Membership meeting.
- We have expanded our Social Media footprint which helps bring in real time right to our members what is happening in our local.

*As you can see, we have been very busy and I am sure there are things I have not mentioned, but we could not make any of these things possible without your continued support, so please give yourselves a big round of applause!*

# TEAMSTERS VOICE of 294

## EXECUTIVE BOARD TEAMSTERS LOCAL 294

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ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

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### FIELD REPRESENTATIVE/ ORGANIZER

JASON HUGHES

### OFFICE STAFF

PHYLLIS KOZEL  
PINA SZEPEK

### ALBANY OFFICE

890 Third Street  
Albany, NY 12206  
Office ph: 518-489-5436  
Office fax: 518-453-9251

## CHUCK GREENFIELD SECRETARY-TREASURER



We are happy to report that although the economy is lagging, our treasury continues to rise along with our membership. We believe our organizing efforts are largely responsible for this. Your full-time organizer, Jason Hughes, is having a significant impact on the organizing success of our local union. Your staff is continually following new leads and the recent implementation of our Organizing Lead Incentive program has had a tremendous impact.

As we prepare to vacation with our family and friends in the upcoming spring and summer seasons, we encourage everyone to be aware of your surroundings when traveling and taking part in other activities. Relax, enjoy and be safe!

## ARE YOU READY TO RETIRE?



**Pension, 401k, Debt Reduction,  
Income and Expense Planning, Insurance Planning,  
Taxes, Saving Strategies, Social Security.**

### About Halliday Financial

Halliday Financial is a full service, independent financial planning and investment advisory firm that provides FREE individual support to help Local 294 members and their families make smart decisions with their finances.



**FOR MORE INFO VISIT: [RETIRE294.COM](http://RETIRE294.COM)**

Sign up for the

# TEAMSTERS LOCAL 294

## STEWARD/ORGANIZING COMMITTEE SEMINAR

Saturday, April 6, 2024, 9am - 3pm

Crowne Plaza  
660 Albany Shaker Road  
Albany, New York 12211

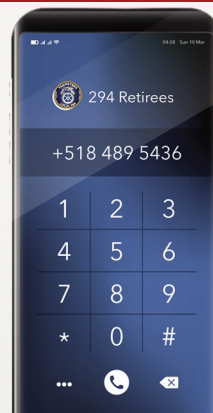
Local 294 will be holding a Steward/Organizing Seminar for all Shop Stewards and Volunteer Organizing Committee members. The seminar will have speakers from the IBT along with other guest speakers, a lunch, and a gift for all attendees. We encourage all stewards and Volunteer Organizing Committee members to attend. Please go to our website at [www.teamsterslocal294.org](http://www.teamsterslocal294.org) or scan the QR CODE to sign up.



# CALLING ALL Retirees!

Join one of our Retiree Clubs –

In the Albany Area Local 294 or in the Utica Area (formerly Local 182)! If interested, please contact us at **518-489-5436** and we will be happy to get an application out to you!



## ID Resolution

Your Identity at Risk. Our Solutions at Work.

ID Resolution is available for all members if their identity has been stolen. ID Resolution provides a comprehensive suite of services and monitoring tools to help keep your Identity and Personal Information safe. In addition to the proactive monitoring tools, you'll get unlimited access to our Fraud Resolution advocates.

For more information, please visit their website at [www.idresolution.net](http://www.idresolution.net) or call **877-308-9167**.



# TEAMSTERS VOICE of 294

## CONTRACT RATIFIED!

New Teamsters from Core-Mark in Amsterdam, NY unanimously ratified their first ever contract after a few sessions of negotiations with the company! Drivers and Dispatchers won significant pay increases along with many other gains and protections. This hard-working group stood up for what they deserved back in October and voted in favor of Local 294 representation. President Quackenbush and Business Agent Jeff Palmerino are proud to bring them their first ever Teamster contract!



## TOWN OF KINGSBURY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY



Field Representative Benjie Dwyer has been working with new Teamsters from the Town of Kingsbury Highway Department to secure a first ever contract for them. Congratulations!

LOCAL 294 TEAMSTERS CARE SCHOLARSHIP 2024 APPLICATION

Please print or type all information. All applications and accompanying information must be sent to the following address: "Local 294 Teamsters Care Scholarship" c/o Teamsters Local 294, 890 Third Street, Albany, NY 12206 or emailed to btorchia@teamsterslocal294.org

The deadline for all applications is April 19, 2024

NAME/STUDENT (LAST) (FIRST) (MIDDLE INITIAL)
HOME ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP CODE
PHONE # EMAIL

HIGH SCHOOL
DATE OF GRADUATION
APPLIED TO:
[ ] COLLEGE
[ ] TRADE PROGRAM
[ ] MILITARY

TEAMSTER PARENT
TEAMSTER PARENT LAST FOUR DIGITS OF SS#
TEAMSTER PARENT PHONE#
TEAMSTER PARENT EMPLOYER NAME & ADDRESS

Applications MUST include the following:

- [ ] 1. A letter of recommendation from the applicant's guidance counselor.
[ ] 2. A current copy of the applicant's high school transcript with GPA.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

PARENT'S SIGNATURE

Disclaimer: IN ORDER TO RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIP MONEY, PROOF OF ACCEPTANCE INTO A COLLEGE PROGRAM, TRADE PROGRAM OR MILITARY SERVICE WILL NEED TO BE PROVIDED.

# TEAMSTERS VOICE *of* 294

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS 2024

Our Local Union's General Membership Meetings are held the first Sunday of every month, however, a vote is generally taken at the June meeting to suspend meetings for the months of July, August and September. Meetings are held at the Labor Temple, 890 Third Street, Albany, NY and begin promptly at 10:00 A.M. All members are urged to show support for their Union by attending these monthly meetings.

The following is the General Membership Meeting schedule remaining through the Spring of 2024:

April 7, 2024

May 5, 2024

June 2, 2024

**LOCAL 294 TEAMSTERS WOMEN'S COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE HELD BEFORE EACH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Teamsters Local 294 takes the health, safety, and security of its members very seriously. Always check [www.teamsterslocal294.org](http://www.teamsterslocal294.org) for any changes or updates.

## DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

Save on Car Insurance as a Teamster with our online Defensive Driving Program ONLY \$21 ... Go to [www.teamsterslocal294.org](http://www.teamsterslocal294.org) for the link to get started.

## DON'T BE OBLIGATED TO PAY EXTRA DUES!

Get a Withdrawal Card When You're Not Working!

Whether you are leaving your job, being laid-off, taking a leave of absence, a lengthy medical leave or terminating your employment, it is your responsibility to obtain a withdrawal card. There is no fee for the withdrawal, but your monthly dues must be paid through the month of your request. Please call the union office at (518) 489-5436 to request a withdrawal or stop by Local 294's office at 890 Third Street, Albany, NY 12206.

# TEAMSTERS LOCAL 294

## CONNECT WITH US



FACEBOOK  
[@TeamstersLocal294](https://www.facebook.com/TeamstersLocal294)



X  
[@Teamsters294](https://www.x.com/Teamsters294)



INSTAGRAM  
[@Teamsters294](https://www.instagram.com/Teamsters294)



TIKTOK  
[@TeamstersLocal294](https://www.tiktok.com/@TeamstersLocal294)



... AND STAY CONNECTED!

VOICE OF 294 is published two times annually at 890 Third Street, Albany, New York 12206

You can also get the latest **Local/National** union information and become involved through:

[www.teamsterslocal294.org](http://www.teamsterslocal294.org) ■ [www.teamster.org](http://www.teamster.org) ■ [Facebook.com/Teamsters](https://www.facebook.com/Teamsters)

[YouTube.com/user/TeamsterPower](https://www.youtube.com/user/TeamsterPower) ■ [@Teamsters](https://www.instagram.com/Teamsters) on Instagram ■ [@Teamsters](https://www.x.com/Teamsters) on X

## TEAMSTERS LOCAL 294 CDL CLASS "A" AND "B" TRAINING & EDUCATION

President Tom Quackenbush is excited to offer members a new CDL-B training program at no cost. Funds for this truck and program were made available through grants from WDI (Workforce Development Institute) and Senator Neil Breslin with the hard work of Business Agent Stan Koniszewski.



Teamsters 294 now offers training and education with our tractor trailer truck and new tri-axle dump truck.

**Call today to sign up for training!**

**Local 294's Training School is for members who are interested in obtaining their Class A License and now their Class B License.** If you have researched any other training schools you will find that the tuition for such training can run anywhere from \$3,500 to \$5,000 or more. We have part-time trainers and classes are only available on week nights and weekends. There is a waiting list, so the sooner you call the sooner you will be called. Our Local Union office number is 518-489-5436.

Local 294 has secured a grant to purchase a state of the art mobile driving simulator to improve our Training and Education Program. The simulator will include over 40 lessons and unlimited create your own scenarios, virtual instructor to train and give feedback to the driver, configurable time of day, weather and traffic density, multi-view instant replay capability, plus much more! This state-of-the-art driving simulator will be mobile so Local 294 can bring it to the members, high schools, job fairs and other locations.

IBT, LOCAL 294  
890 Third Street  
Albany, NY 12206



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## WHAT'S INSIDE

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Tom Quackenbush

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Chuck Greenfield

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Scholarship Application

Class A & B CDL Training

New Equipment Coming Soon

*See Details Inside...*

## LOCAL 294 TEAMSTERS CARE



Local 294 Teamsters Care presented a check to Town of Chatham member Shane VanTassel. Shane has struggled with Cerebral Palsy since birth and recently was out of work because of flare ups. Our members thankfully approached the Local as advocates for Shane for any assistance during this time.

*“Shane is an inspirational member that was part of our negotiating committee and has brought great energy to our team, it’s great that Teamsters Care and our guys could rally around him in this difficult time,”* said Business Agent Michael Degano.