

# Inside this Issue of THE WORKER

Master Food Contract Victory • New Local 135 Union Service Pins 10 Day Customer Mobilization Campaign • Charity Golf Classic Local 135 and KP's New Labor Liaison • And Much More!

### The Worker



A Magazine for the Members and Retirees of UFCW Local 135

#### **UFCW LOCAL 135 ELECTED OFFICERS**

Todd Walters - President Grant Tom - Secretary-Treasurer Maribel Mckinze - Recorder, Organizing & Political Director

#### **UFCW LOCAL 135 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Todd Walters Grant Tom Maribel Mckinze Lindsey Bensinger - Vice President Leigh Delikat-Savedra - Vice President Theresa Jacques - Vice President Tamara Long - Vice President Chris Lopez - Vice President Esther Lopez - Vice President Bethyl Mitchell - Vice President Cristina Palmieri - Vice President

#### **UFCW LOCAL 135 REPRESENTATIVES**

Stacie CordeiroOscar SumabatJoe KablerJon TaatjesChris LopezKelly TanakaAndres Pinzon

**UFCW LOCAL 135 STAFF** 

Brent E. Beltrán - Communications Director Lindsey Bensinger - Membership Administrator Suzanne Castro - Insurance Specialist Veronica Chavez - Grievance Dept Administrator Brian Kelly - Comptroller Marie Incrocci - Insurance & Pension Administrator Ehileen Lopez - Insurance Specialist Sarah Maya-Goldbaum - Insurance Specialist Vicki Miller - Membership Specialist Cristi Montano - Insurance Specialist Carl Rapp - Membership Specialist Kat Rocha - Membership Specialist Elyse Taylor - Insurance Specialist Wong Yang - Insurance Specialist

#### THE WORKER EDITORIAL STAFF

Todd Walters Grant Tom Maribel Mckinze Brent E. Beltrán

The Worker - January-December 2019 © 2019 United Food and Commercial Workers Local 135 The Worker (USPS 018-630) is published by UFCW Local 135. Periodical postage paid in San Diego, California. Postmaster: Send address changes to: The Worker, 2001 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego 92108-3603.

### The Worker Table of Contents

- 3 Team 135's Year in Review
- 4 New Master Food Contract Ratified
- 6 Show Your Pride in UFCW 135!
- 7 Retirees Club President Jack Miller
- 8 UFCW Local 135 Fair Contract Rally and Ten Day Customer Mobilization Campaign
- 9 Hundreds Rally and Mobilize to Support a New UFCW Contract for Grocery Members
- 10 Introducing Aida Galindez, UFCW Local 135 and Kaiser Permanente's Labor Liaison
- 11 Meet Your Local 135 Reps
- 14 Local 135's 11<sup>th</sup> Charity Golf Classic

#### - UFCW LOCAL 135 MISSION -

The mission of UFCW Local 135 is to improve the lives of working families and to bring justice to the workplace. The UFCW is one union with one voice. We are committed to changing the places where we work and the communities where we live so that all workers have the opportunity to reach the American Dream.

UFCW members are from many backgrounds and walks of life, but come together as the UFCW for the shared goal of achieving the American Dream. The UFCW is about workers helping workers improve their standard of living. When we unite for better wages, benefits, and working conditions, we help protect and improve the livelihoods of all workers.

#### **MISSION VALLEY OFFICE**

2001 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, CA. 92108 Monday - Friday 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm

#### NORTH COUNTY OFFICE

323A South Rancho Santa Fe Rd. San Marcos, CA. 92078 Tues, Thurs and Fri 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm

#### (619) 298-7772

Membership – Extension 6 Insurance & Pension – Extension 8 Grievance & Contract – Extension 9

#### www.ufcw135.com

Facebook, Instagram & Twitter: @ufcw135

#### **CLOSED FOR UPCOMING HOLIDAYS:**

Christmas: December 24 & 25 New Year's: January 1 Martin Luther King Jr. Day: January 20 President's Day: February 17

#### THE WORKER

#### LOCAL 135 -

## **TEAM 135'S YEAR IN REVIEW**

On January 2<sup>nd</sup> we walked into a union hall in disarray. UFCW Local 135 was short staffed, there were many unpaid bills, the power was shut off at the North County office, members were not being serviced, and there were numerous unresolved grievances. We had to call a locksmith to let us into the Mission Valley office and we had no access to our website nor our social media accounts. The previous regime was gone and they provided no help with the transition. We were on our own. But none of that mattered. We were ready to return Local 135 back to the membership.

We immediately got to work servicing the members. We re-established member communications from social media to the website. We began working through the backlog of grievances. We organized the office and started the process of hiring new Reps and staff, all of them members. To date we have hired thirteen new staffers with plans for a few more to bring us up to full staffing levels.

From day one we hit the ground running. There was no time for us to transition into our new positions because there was tons of work to do including finishing negotiations with our dental contracts, Spreckles Sugar Company, and starting negotiations on the Master Food Contract.

A lot of relationship mending was needed with other unions, labor leaders, elected officials, and community organizations. We dissolved the divisive Working Families Council and proudly rejoined the SD & Imperial Counties Labor Council where Todd was appointed to the E-Board and Local 135 regained our delegate seats.

With a renewed focus on the membership and community Local 135 has opened up our union hall and hosted a variety of meetings, events, workshops, and trainings, including Memberships Meetings where everyone is welcome, New Member Meetings, Steward trainings, OSHA training, citizenship workshops, a record expungement clinic, worksite leadership and organizing training, Center on Policy Initiatives



UFCW Local 135 leadership: Todd, Grant & Maribel.

work schedule study, Labor Council activities, and more.

We honor and reconnected with our retiree club and now attend their monthly luncheons and provide any information and help that is asked of us. The retirees have been very helpful by volunteering their time when needed and by grilling burgers and dogs at our quarterly Membership Meetings.

Team 135 is investing more in the membership. We want our members to feel welcome when they come to the Mission Valley office. This is YOUR office and YOUR union. Some of the investments include replacing the broken water fountains, new couches for members to lounge on, a couple tables and chairs for our new office "bistro" area with a Keurig coffee machine to make a hot cup of Joe. We also created new Local 135 service pins for members that have reached milestone years of work.

In addition, we saved a million dollars for member protection by evaluating expenses, less attorney fees, not contributing frivolously to electoral campaigns, and by being more mindful of member funds.

Due to the innovations and investment into our infrastructure, the Master Food Contract campaign (Albertsons, Gelsons, Ralphs, Stater Bros, and Vons) produced the best contract in decades, we had a record number of members involved, plus amazing support by our siblings in other labor unions and allies from community groups. Media coverage and social media engagement was off the charts during the campaign. Some of the gains in the new contract include pay raises for topped out members, Food Trust medical improvements, Dental/Vision rollover, better spousal coverage, a new affordable Kaiser HMO for post-2004 Platinum members with 6.5 years, and more.

In October we organized our 11<sup>th</sup> Charity Golf Classic fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. We had a great turnout and ended up donating a record amount, over \$70,000, to help LLS fight cancer. Also in October, we hired a new Communications Director who got to work updating and relaunching our mobile app plus organizing this issue of The Worker. Longtime Kaiser Permanente member Aida Galindez was chosen as the Labor Liaison for the Labor Management Partnership with Kaiser.

These are just some of the highlights from 2019. So much more was done during the year and so much more still needs to be done. We're not over making positive changes. More is to come in 2020 including new contract negotiations for Food 4 Less and Keil's members, a new steward program, organizing San Diego and Imperial Valley's cannabis industry, and more member engagement. We negotiated to have our North County office remodeled, at no cost to Local 135. to make it more comfortable, accessible, and member friendly. Expect to see the new changes in the first quarter of next year.

We, the elected leadership of UFCW Local 135, are here for you. We have brought a new attitude with a firm recognition of the needs and concerns of our members. We are not here to build political power for ourselves, we are here to use what power the union has for the betterment of the hardworking members of UFCW Local 135. And we look forward to continuing that into 2020 and beyond. Thank you for entrusting us with your union.

- Todd, Grant, and Maribel



Members of Albertsons, Gelson's, Ralphs, Stater Bros, and Vons Gain Best Contract in Decades

After months of tense negotiations and numerous actions by Southern California UFCW's our grocery members under the Master Food Contract voted overwhelmingly to accept a new three year contract.

Southern California grocery members had been working without a deal since March of this year and frustration was building. On June 24 they gave Local 135 and the other UFCW's a clear authorization to declare a strike if negotiations failed.

As negotiations seemed to slow down all of the SoCal UFCW's decided to mobilize their members and customers in the fight for a fair contract. Over a ten day period in August UFCW Local 135 held actions at 20 different Ralphs locations throughout San Diego County.

Utilizing the slogan "One Good Job Should Be Enough" members rallied in front of Ralphs and engaged customers who were entering and exiting the stores. As part of the customer mobilization actions Local 135 Reps and members leafletted patrons with a flyer asking customers to sign up to receive a text notification if a strike were to occur. Public support was very high as labor unions, community organizations, elected officials, political candidates, and a variety of individuals in solidarity with our cause picked up signs and stood, and sweated, with our members in the summertime heat.

With negotiations seemingly going nowhere members were ready to take matters into their own hands, many demanding a strike. Understanding the frustrations of the membership the leaders of our Southern California Locals set a hard deadline of September 9. If a deal wasn't reached by then a strike was going to happen.

In the early morning hours of September 8, one day before the looming strike deadline, a deal was struck.

"Tension was high as we walked into negotiations on Saturday morning knowing we were so far from a deal," said Local 135 President Todd Walters. "Later that day, the companies recognized that Union members from Ralphs, Albertsons and Vons were ready to do whatever it took to get a deal. Going back more than twenty years, we got the best contract we've had at three in the morning!" Some of the highlights of the new contract are wage increases of \$1.55 to \$1.65 over three years for topped out members, retro pay for eligible members, rollover of up to half of annual dental and vision benefits, sufficient funding to maintain health & welfare benefits, adequate funding to maintain all pension benefits, increased minimum hour guarantee for Food Clerks and GM Clerks with twelve years of experience to 28 hours per week, formation of a Joint Labor Management Committee to deal with future automation, and much more.

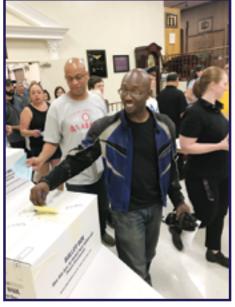
President Todd proudly exclaimed that "there were record numbers of people at our demonstrations supporting grocery workers. This contract was a huge victory for our members and shows that getting involved and fighting for what you want really pays off!"

Though the process of getting this new three year contract wasn't easy it shows just how hard our members and leadership are willing to fight to get a fair contract. It takes teamwork, sacrifice, and commitment from all. And Team 135 is committed to doing whatever it takes to do right by our membership.

#### LOCAL 135 -

#### — THE WORKER

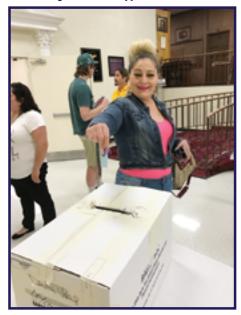






Turnout at both voting locations was high. Local 135 appreciates all that took time to vote on your contract.







Local 135 Staff and Representatives were available and eager to answer any questions from the membership.







## Show Your Pride in UFCW 135! Wear Your Union Service Pin!



Patty (Albertsons 707) - 20 year pin.



Sue (Rite Aid 5647) & Mike (Ralphs 207) - 15 year pins.

Tenure equals experience, professionalism, and performance. It is important for us to recognize those that have earned their time. Local 135 acknowledges our member's acomplishments and we are proud to have created our new union service pins for them. The image, designed by Secretary-Treasurer Grant Tom, was produced for the Team Todd election campaign in 2018.

The new service pins are union made and come in denominations of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, and 45 years.

Next time you see your Representative or when you visit the Mission Valley office ask for one and show your pride in being a member of UFCW Local 135.



– UFCW

UFCW Local 135's new service pin was designed by our Secretary-Treasurer Grant Tom.



José (Ralphs 77) - 25 year pin.



David (Ralphs 57) - 35 year pin.



Mary (Albertsons 3201) - 40 year pin.



Luis (Vons 3327) - 35 year pin.



Maricela (Food 4 Less 374) - 15 year pin.



Leticia (Vons 2093) - 20 year pin.



Janice (Albertsons 2785) - 35 year pin.

## **UFCW Local 135 Retirees Club**

## **Interview with President Jack Miller**

### How many years were you a member of Local 135 and where did you work?

I was a member of Local 135 for 30 years and retired with the Golden 85 in 2007. During this time I worked at Alpha Beta 101 in Lakeside, 222 in Lakeside, and headed to Ramona to do the grand opening of store 226. I also worked in Tierrasanta in the 80's, and Poway store 241 in the 90's. I retired from Santee Albertsons 6227. My position at that time was Dairy Manager. I was also a steward for over 20 years and a picket captain for the 2003-2004 strike. I've been President of the Retirees Club since 2015.

### What is the purpose of the UFCW Local 135 Retirees Club?

The purpose of the club is to have a monthly social event that brings Retirees together to visit and share stories and trips they have gone on. We enjoy a catered lunch which costs the members \$10 and non-members and guests pay \$15.00. Afterwards if you would like to stay and participate, we play four games of bingo. The first three games are straight bingo with a winning pot of \$20.00. The last game is Blackout for \$40.00. Bingo cards are \$1.00 each.

#### When was the Retirees Club founded?

The club was originally founded in 1973 and called Retail Clerks Local 1222 Retirees Club. By-laws were created on February 2, 2001 and amended on August 20, 2018.

How many members are there, who are the officers and how often are elections? As of now, we have 70 members of which 40-50 attend our lunches regularly. The current officers are Jack Miller (President), Karie Lasko (Vice President), Secretary (position vacant), and Edna Stearns (Treasurer). The Sergeant-at-Arms (Directors) are Tonie Williams, Julie Patterson, Patricia Veizaga, Tina MacKay and Bud Killingsworth. Two other voting members are Sara Dupuy (Decorations Chair) and Christina Kaylor (Event Chair). Elections are once a calendar year with nominations in October, voting in November, and the results in December with installation at our January meeting.

#### What are some of the club's activities?

Every meeting we raffle two free luncheons, you receive two tickets, one for attending and one for wearing your name badge. We also raffle eight bags with different items and have a 50-50 drawing. Last month (October 2019) was our largest winner at \$90.00. Members buy tickets when they check in for the luncheon. Twice a year we have a special event at Viejas where the Retirees Club gives members who attend a \$15.00 voucher good for their lunch. Last event at Viejas we had 21 attendees. We also do day trips. In June we went to Puerto Nuevo. The bus takes you down and you enjoy a lobster lunch and then it stops in Rosarito for some shopping. In the past we have gone to Lake Arrowhead and took a boat ride around the lake, did a little shopping and had lunch. Future events are in the making.

### What is the relationship between the club and the union?

We network with the union to help them with any needs they may have. They come to our meetings to keep us updated on contracts and other items that are being done at the Local. Many retiree members were involved in the Ralph's rallies passing out fliers and talking with customers during the negotiations. Currently, we are involved in BBQ's for the active members at the quarterly general meetings. Thanks to the Local for getting a BBQ for us!

#### Why are you involved in the club?

As I went to my first meeting I noticed there were a lot of older retirees and saw that attendance was declining due to members passing away. During this time I worked with some great members: Karie, Sarah, Christina, and Tonie. We formed a relationship with the members to provide information to the future members who were soon to be retired. We changed our lunch meeting location twice to accommodate many members who were in their 90's. We found ways to spread the word including the use of our social media Facebook page and email. From there as other retirees brought their friends who were retired, word of mouth helped build our membership. Our current location overlooks beautiful Mission Bay, creating the perfect atmosphere for an afternoon of fun, friends, food and lots of laughter with the members.

UFCW Local 135 Retirees Club luncheons are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 1930 Quivira Way in San Diego. Contact Jack Miller at (619) 246-1040 to RSVP (you don't have to be retired to attend). For more info on club activities visit the San Diego UFCW 135 Retirees Club Facebook page.

## UFCW Local 135 Fair Contract Rally and Ten Day Customer Mobilization Campaign



UFCW Local 135 Secretary-Treasurer Grant Tom.



UFCW Local 135 President Todd Walters.

UFCW Local 135, labor allies, and community partners turned out in a massive show of solidarity for our grocery members and their just demand for a fair contract. On August 16 hundreds of labor supporters attended a rally at Ralphs 77 in Mission Valley and from August 21 through August 30 hundreds more turned out for our 10 Day Customer Mobilization Campaign at every Ralphs location in San Diego County. Simultaneously, UFCW Locals throughout Southern California



Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez.



National City Mayor Alejandra Sotelo-Solis.



San Diego Labor Council's Keith Maddox.



Local 135 Retiree Club President Jack Miller.



UFCW Local 135 Representative Chris Lopez.



Local 135 member Charles from Stater Bros.

## **Hundreds Rally and Mobilize to Support** a New UFCW Contract for Grocery Members

educated Ralphs customers and the general public in their respective areas. Through the hard work and sacrifice of our members, with tremendous support from community partners, we were able to negotiate the best contract in over two decades! We want to express gratitude to all that came out to stand with us in our time of need, especially all of the members of UFCW Local 135 that showed up to fight on behalf of themselves.



Jim Miller, Kelly Mayhew, and AFT interns.



**Future labor leader.** 







The community turned out and stood with our members.



First day of the campaign in Downtown San Diego.



Local 135 retirees Sandra, Isabel and Deborah,



Maribel and Anabel: union sisters united!



Fighting for a better contract is a beautiful thing!

### **Kaiser News**



### Introducing Aida Galindez, UFCW Local 135 and Kaiser Permanente's Labor Liaison

Aida Galindez is the Labor Liaison for UFCW Local 135 and Kaiser Permanente. She started in this new position in late October 2019.

Aida's job, paid for by Kaiser but in conjunction with the Labor Management Partnership, is to develop a partnership between labor and management.

The main duties of our Labor Liaison consist of developing potential union leaders and participating in Partnership Committees as well as implementing projects. Other duties and responsibilities include identifying, developing, and mentoring new union stewards/partners/stakeholders, using processes and protocols as established by the local unions. The Labor Liaison will also engage, partner, and mentor stewards from the UFCW and work with other Labor Liaisons, union leaders, and management to advance the Labor Management Partnership and to integrate the goals and objectives of the Partnership into Kaiser Permanente operations based on the National Agreement and annual LMP Work Plan.

The Labor Liaison will continuously monitor the level of commitment to the LMP and report concerns or non-compliance issues to the appropriate authority. The Labor Liaison will also support UFCW-Kaiser steward's through training, conferences and any and all UFCW and/or Alliance of Healthcare Union events.

Other job duties include: coordinate and track training for UBT members/ partners/stakeholders, coordinate with union leaders to populate LMP committees and/or projects with appropriate representatives, attend Alliance of Healthcare Unions meetings and Regional Team meetings when requested to by the UFCW leadership, represent Labor's interests in consistent application of Partnership principals and behaviors, foster positive relationships to minimize barriers, help support Labor and Management to work on issues and solve problems using LMP training and tools, facilitate UBT meetings as needed, and foster open communication between Labor and Management on goals and activities.

Since taking on this position, Aida has been out and about with Local 135 Representatives meeting with our Kaiser members including Pharmacy Technicians, Medical Lab Technicians, Clinical Lab Scientists, and others at the various Kaiser Permanente locations throughout San Diego County.

Aida has put in almost forty years as a medical professional with thirty of them as an inpatient pharmacy technician at Kaiser. She feels lucky to have gotten a job right away after pharmacy school in the Philippines. She started out at a small pharmacy before getting a pharmacy tech job



Labor Liaison Aida Galindez is an integral part of the Labor Partnership between UFCW and Kaiser.

#### at Lucky.

Aida is a thirty-year member of the union. She has worked at Kaiser since 1988, starting in Harbor City before moving to San Diego in 1995. As an inpatient pharmacy technician at Kaiser, Aida was a shop steward advocating for her peers and was on the first UBT Representative Group when the UBT first started. She specialized in Pyxis administration and prepared IV admixtures, filled and delivered medications in Pyxis, and other required duties.

To further her knowledge and career goals Aida is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration on project management.

Aida has been married for thirty years and has three adult children. When she has spare time she loves cooking and baking pretty much anything delicious. She also enjoys watching movies and being outside admiring nature.

It is people like UFCW Labor Liaison Aida Galindez that makes the Labor Partnership between UFCW and Kaiser workable. The knowledge and dedication she brings to the position is an advantage not only to our member medical professionals but also to the entire Kaiser system. UFCW Local 135 is proud to have members like Aida working for the benefit of all.

#### LOCAL 135 -

## **MEET YOUR UFCW LOCAL 135 REPS**

Meet your hardworking Representatives from UFCW Local 135: Joe Kabler, Jon Taatjes, Andres Pinzon, Chris Lopez, Stacie Cordeiro, Oscar Sumabat and Kelly Tanaka. They are here to fight on your behalf!

Our Reps are your union's connection to the members. They are in our union shops on a daily basis meeting and communicating with our membership. When not on location they are either at the office answering questions on their phones or managing grievances on your behalf.

If you have any questions regarding your contract or have an issue with management do not hesitate to reach out to your UFCW Local 135 union Rep. They are here for you!



JOE KABLER (619) 298-7772 Ext. 134 Representative since September 2014 18 years at Vons

ALBERTSONS: 733, 740, 2767 CVS: 8866, 9187, 9479, 9528, 9549, 9585 GELSONS: 26, 27 KAISER: 209, 223, 237 RALPHS: 54, 167, 168, 175 RANCHO DEL ORO DENTAL RITE AID: 5621, 5622, 5627, 5634, 5635, 5666, 6465, 6711 STATER BROS.: 150, 151, 158, 186 VONS: 2065, 2142, 2144, 2327, 2343, 2360, 2724, 2859



JON TAATJES (619) 298-7772, Ext.157 Representative since March 2019 16 years at Albertsons, Haggen & Vons

ALBERTSONS: 710, 725, 3179 CVS: 3068, 8833, 9102, 9111, 9131, 9169, 9175, 9177, 9194, 9197 KAISER: 202, 206, 220, 2020, RALPHS: 19, 105 RITE AID: 5638, 5653, 5654, 5658, 5660, 5661, 5662, 5665 STATER BROS.: 163, 167 VONS: 2012, 2079, 2081, 2093, 2107, 2118, 2120, 2134, 2136, 2370, 2323, 3327, 4018



ANDRES PINZON (619) 298-7772, Ext. 146 Representative since August 2019 Organizer from 2017-2019

ALBERTSONS: 745 APOTHEKARE CVS: 1018, 4768, 9109, 9121, 9141, 9148 FOOD 4 LESS: 374 MEDMEN RALPHS: 51, 123, 220 RITE AID: 5644, 5646, 5651, 5652, 6466 VONS: 2352, 2355, 2358, 2784



CHRIS LOPEZ (619) 298-7772, Ext. 168 Representative since March 2019 20 years at Vons

ALBERTSONS: 704, 707, 723, 738, 758, 2783, 2785, 3202 CVS: 3025, 8842, 9112, 9137, 9145, 9162, 9167, 9173, 9818 FOOD 4 LESS: 318, 349, 394, 774, 781 KAISER: 225, 240, 751 KEILS: 2 RALPHS: 57 RITE AID: 5618, 5620, 5623, 5625, 5632, 5656, 6225 SPRECKELS SUGAR CO. VIEJAS CASINO VONS: 1767, 1897, 2406, 3044



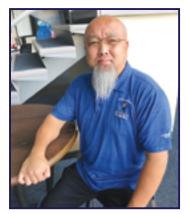
STACIE CORDEIRO (619) 298-7772, Ext. 125 Representative since April 2019 23 years at Ralphs, Vons & Stater Bros.

ALBERTSONS: 708, 711, 750, 1705, 3201, 3797, 4713, 4786 CVS: 3914, 6368, 8836, 8857, 9103, 9104, 9108, 9558, 9574, 9959 FAMILY DENTAL OF SAN MARCOS FOOD 4 LESS: 300, 345 KAISER: 208, 231, 239, 247, 249 RALPHS: 90, 683 RESTAURANT DEPOT - SAN MARCOS RITE AID: 5629, 5631, 5642 STATER BROS.: 140, 152, 156, 157 VONS: 2049, 2121, 2156, 2344, 2345, 3330



OSCAR SUMABAT 619-298-7772, Ext. 147 Representative since May 2019 22 years at Ralphs

ALBERTSONS: 757 BONITA DENTAL CENTRAL MEAT CVS: 8859, 9113, 9115, 9138, 9140, 9193, 9196, 9240, 9524, 9632, 9783 FOOD 4 LESS: 346, 763, 780 KAISER: 201, 216, 245 RALPHS: 75, 159, 235 RESTAURANT DEPOT - SAN DIEGO RITE AID: 5613, 5614, 5615, 5617, 5655, 5668 SAN DIEGO DENTAL VONS: 2071, 2115, 2130, 2338, 2364, 2826



KELLY TANAKA 619-298-7772, Ext. 136 Representative since February 2019 Insurance Specialist from 2005-2019 10 years at Vons

CVS: 7962, 9105, 9165, 9922, 9963 FOOD 4 LESS: 333, 347 GELSONS: 30 HUDSON KAISER: 1, 214, 217, 230 PARADIES RALPHS: 77, 108, 201, 207, 212 RESTAURANT DEPOT - MIRAMAR RITE AID: 5647, 5649, 5657, 6795 SORENTO VALLEY PERFECT SMILE DENTAL STATER BROS.: 162 VONS: 1797, 2040, 2053, 2116, 2119, 2323, 2348, 2349, 2359, 2735

# **UNION WORKERS HAVE RIGHTS!**

# WEINGARTEN RIGHTS

Weingarten Rights are federal rights for union workers. Protect yourself! Call for your union representative!



**Read to Your Supervisor or Just Ask for Your Union Rep** If this discussion, meeting or telephone call could in any way be related to my being disciplined or terminated or affect any of my working conditions, I exercise my federal rights and hereby request that my union representative be present. Without their presence, I choose not to participate in this discussion or meeting. Please do not request that I waive this right.

## WHAT IS THE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE?

1) If you think your rights under the contract have been violated, the first step is to discuss the matter with your union representative and file a grievance if necessary.

2) Your union representative will mediate and investigate on your behalf to help remedy your situation. 3) After a resolution has been reached all parties move forward to work together in enforcing the conduct and provisions of the contract.

UFCW LOCAL 135 REPRESENTATIVES ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!

If you have any questions call your Rep or the Grievance & Contract Department at (619) 298-7772 Ext. 9

Grievances MUST be filed in person at either union office.

Do NOT email or contact the union on social media for grievances or member issues.

## - UFCW LOCAL 135 FIGHTS FOR THE MEMBERSHIP! -

\$16,452 in Back Pay was Awarded to Members in 2019.283 Grievances were Filed and Processed in 2019.Over 200 more Grievances were Processed from 2018.

## **MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT**

UFCW Local 135's Membership Department focuses on day-to-day union operations for our members. Contact them for joining the union, withdrawal cards, promotions, address changes, transfers, and discount tickets. ~ Membership Department (619) 298-7772, Ext. 6 ~

Stay up-to-date with the latest info and breaking news by keeping your contact info current.

- Have you changed your last name or phone number recently?
- Do you have a new address?
- Are you going on leave or moving out of the state?

Call the Membership Dept. to make any changes to your contact information.

#### **DISCOUNTED THEME PARK AND MOVIE TICKETS**

Local 135 provides discounted tickets to the following theme parks and movie theaters:

LEGOLAND SAN DIEGO ZOO & SAFARI PARK SEA WORLD MAGIC MOUNTAIN KNOTT'S BERRY FARM AMC THEATRES REGAL CINEMAS READING CINEMAS

For more information call the Membership Department at (619) 298-7772, Ext. 6.

#### **Rules and Regulations**

- Tickets subject to availability and are available to Local 135 active members and retirees only (ID required).
- SAN DIEGO ZOO & SAFARI PARK SEA WORLD • Prices are subject to change and supplies are limited.
  - Purchases must be made in person by the member/retiree at Local 135.
  - Magic Mountain tickets are limited to 10 per person per month and all other theme park tickets are limited to 12 per person, per month.
  - All movie theater tickets are limited to 20 per person, per month.
  - We accept cash or credit/debit card. NO CHECKS.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - 6pm

February 19 - April 22 - July 22 - October 21

NEW MEMBER MEETINGS - 9am & 6pm February 5 - May 6 - August 5 - November 4

Meetings take place at 2001 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego, 92108 - Dates subject to change. Call Membership Dept. for more info.

## **BENEFITS & PENSION DEPARTMENT**

As a member of UFCW Local 135, you may be eligible for benefits provided through the UFCW Trust Funds. There are different eligibility requirements depending on which benefit program you fall under. Your eligible dependents may also be covered as they meet the Fund requirements for eligibility. The Trust Funds provides health & welfare benefits including medical, prescription drug, dental, vision, chiropractic, mental health, pension, death benefits & COBRA continuation of benefits.

Southern California UFCW Unions and Food Employers Joint Benefit Fund (Food Trust) (877) 284-2320 www.scufcwfunds.com

Southern California UFCW Unions and Drug & General Sales Employers (Drug & General Sales Trust) (877) 999-8329 www.ufcwdrugtrust.org If you have any questions regarding your insurance benefits or pension, call UFCW Local 135's Benefits & Pension Department at (619) 298-7772 Extension 8.

#### Tournament Record Raised to Fight Against Leukemia & Lymphoma Cancers!

On October 14 UFCW Local 135 held our 11th Charity Golf Classic at Riverwalk Golf Club in Mission Valley. With the help of sponsors and attendees our union cut a \$70,500 check for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to help them in their righteous fight against cancer. We are excited to announce that this was the most we have ever raised in the

history of our charity tournament!

The mission of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. They are at the forefront of the fight to cure cancer and have invested nearly \$1.3 billion in research.

"We are proud to be part of an event to raise money for an incredible cause that touches our members," said President Todd Walters.

Approximately 130 people participated in the golf tournament. Each receiving breakfast, lunch, dinner, a round of golf, a cart to use on the course, and a goodie bag. Attendees also participated in



The first Golf Classic under President Todd Walters.



a raffle featuring some awesome prizes including two large screen televisions, iPads, a basket of legal cannabis goods donated by unionized dispensary Apothekare, and many other great items. We want to thank all of the participants for joining us for a wonderful cause on a beautiful day in San Diego. We hope you had a great time!

In addition to playing a round of golf. UFCW Local 135 and event attendees were honored by the brief presence of Vons member Eva Estrella and her son Enrique. At 17 years old Enrique was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia and spent several months in and out of the hospital fighting for his life. Though he missed his entire senior year in high school he was still able to do the work necessary to graduate with his class this past June.

"To anyone experiencing the devastation of cancer, you have to stay strong," says Enrique's mom Eva in an interview on the LLS blog. "I'm so thankful that UFCW is helping LLS accomplish more than any other cancer nonprofit to advance research and cures for blood cancer patients, like my son Enrique."

And we are thankful for members

like Eva and their families. They are why we do what we do as a union. Raising funds through our Charity Golf Classic is but one avenue where Local 135 helps out our members and the greater community.

We want to give special thanks to all of the amazing sponsors that helped make the event happen, including Hiden, Rott & Oer-

tle, LLP, San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council, SIMNSA, UHC. Meketa Investment Group. UFCW Local 8 Golden State, Anthem Blue Cross, Schwartz, Steinsapir, Dohrmann & Sommers, LLP, Miller, Kaplan, Arase & Company, Laborers Local 89, Segal Company, Liberty Dental, UFCW Local 99, UFCW Local 2267, Mount Lucas Management Corp., UFCW Local 324, UFCW Local 770, Plumber & Pipefitters Local 230. Blue Shield of California, Delta Dental, Pacific Western Bank, and RVK.

We also want to recognize our hole sponsors including Apothekare for the CBD oil massages, Bonita Den-



Guests of honor Enrique & Eva Estrella flanked by Recorder Maribel McKinze, UFCW Western States Council's Dana Palmer, Matt Russow the Campaign Manager at the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society-UFCW Partnership. President Todd and Secretary-Treasurer Grant Tom.

14

#### - THE WORKER

#### LOCAL 135 -



UFCW Local 135 appreciates all of the people that came out on a beautiful day to support a good cause with us.

tal for the margaritas, San Diego Dental for the margaritas and burritos, United Healthcare for the beer, and Rilo Import & Export for the tequila tasting.

Also deserving recognition are the groups that donated items for the goodie bags and the raffle including Anthem Blue Cross, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, San Diego Dental, Rancho Del Oro Dental, HMC, Mt. Lucas, UFCW International, Liberty Dental, Kaiser Permanente, United Healthcare, Stater Bros, Diamond Boutique, Rilo Import & Export, and others.

Many key people helped make our Charity Golf Classic a huge success including Matt Russow the Campaign Manager at the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society-UFCW Partnership, Dana Palmer from UFCW Western States Council and Connie Baxley from UFCW Local 1428. Our staff put a lot of work into making the event happen. Those that deserve special recognition for their hard work include Lind-



The tequila tasting, graciously provided by Rilo Import & Export, was a one of the favorite holes to relax and enjoy a fine drink at.



Golf Classic foursome Randy Lutrick, Jeff Miller, Retiree Club President Jack Miller and Grant Tom.

sey Bensinger, Maribel McKinze, Marie Incrocci, and Brian Kelly. It takes a team to organize events like this. And we have a great one!

We also want to express appreciation to our membership. Without our hardworking members UFCW Local 135 would not have been able to put on such an amazing fundraiser for a great cause.

Thank you to all that allowed UFCW Local 135 to donate the most ever in the history of the Charity Golf Classic. We look forward to seeing you back on the links this time next year!



Team 135 leadership with E-Board members Esther Lopez, Chris Lopez & retired E-Boarder Sandra O'Brien.



Special thanks to unionized cannabis dispensary Apothekare, and their supplier Dr. Raw Organics, for providing free CBD massages to tournament participants.



Golf Classic attendees testing out the golf cannon.



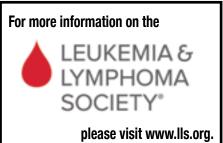
Local 135 Reps Oscar and Andres are ready for a round.



**Retired Local 135 Rep German Ramirez tees off.** 



President Todd with officials from UFCW Local 8.



POSTMASTER, send address changes to: UFCW Local 135 - The Worker 2001 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, CA 92108-3603





#### CONTACT YOUR UNION Find your Union Rep, stay

informed of Union happenings, call the Union office. All from the UFCW Local 135 Mobile App.



#### MEMBER RESOURCES

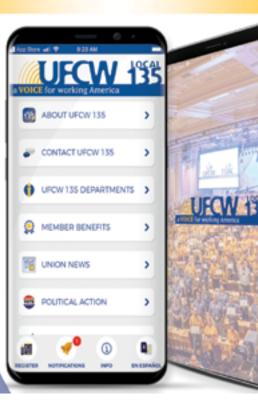
Check your membership resources right from your mobile phone. Download a form, fill out a union survey, find member discounts.

#### **REVIEW YOUR CONTRACT**

Carry your digital copy of your contract with you at all times. Know your rights and stay informed when you are on the go.

## STAY INFORMED WITH THE UFCW LOCAL 135 MOBILE APP

The UFCW 135 APP is the best way for its members of UFCW Local 135 to stay connected on the go.





Download on the

App Store



