

Greetings from the Labor Movement:

What have unions ever done for working people like us? Plenty. Much of what we have today—things we take for granted—is the result of working men and women joining together in unions like the Teamsters to make America even more a land of opportunity.

Here are just a few of the things working people like us, joining together in unions, have won:

- The 40-hour week
- The Eight-hour Day
- Overtime Pay
- **Paid** vacations and holidays
- Health plans
- Pensions
- Protection from unfair firings
- Safety and health protections on the job
- Fairness in promotions and job assignments
- Sick leave
- Higher wages for union members

Other labor facts:

- In private industry, union workers earn 28 percent more than nonunion workers. That's an average of \$8,008 **more** per year.
- Union workers receive 158 percent more in health insurance and 363 percent more in pension benefits

The Folks Who Brought You the Weekend

- Union blue-collar workers earn \$6.20 more an hour in total compensation than nonunion blue collar workers.
- Union women earn 31 percent more than nonunion women.
- African Americans who belong to a union earn 37 percent more.
- Hispanics who belong to a union earn 55 percent more.

(Source: 2001 Census Bureau, U.S. Government Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Then there's the stuff you can't put a price on—dignity, respect, a real say in what happens on the job, more opportunity for our families.

Unions have made a big difference and do make a big difference. With downsizing and mergers, changes in the economy and rising inequalities, working people like us need to join together now more than ever.

Nobody ever **gave** working people anything. We earned it. We fought for it. As we get close to the turn of the century, the Teamsters and other unions are still fighting to win respect and a fair deal for America's working men and women.

