# BWW/ED

BROTHERHOOD OF MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYES DIVISION of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

JOURNAL



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# BMWED Amtrak MOW employees ratify new contract

**Amtrak** members of the **BMWED-IBT** have ratified a new collective bargaining agreement with the railroad that raises wages by a compounded 18.8 percent over the life of the contract, resolves health insurance benefits, and protects work rules.

The final vote was certified this week by the American Arbitration Association. Of the 2,963 ballots mailed to BMWED Amtrak

members, 1,419 were returned (48 percent). Of those, 1,371 voted to ratify, with 46 voting against and two voided. Ratification of the CBA passed on 95 percent of the returned ballots. The Brotherhood expects the new pay rates and retropay to go into effect by the end of June.

"Overall, we protected the members against the vicious and sustained assault Amtrak management pursued through most of the bargaining round"...

Reaching agreement and achieving ratification was a great success for the BMWED, which was lead by Penn Fed General Chairman Jed Dodd, along with



BMWED President Freddie Simpson and General Chairmen Dale Bogart (NESF), Louis Below (USD), Jason Graham (CRSF), Hayward Granier (ICGF), and Dennis Albers (Allied).

In a political environment that is increasingly difficult for collective bargaining, this ratified agreement protects work rules, is not overbearing on the members in the form of health insurance cost-sharing, and provides for modest but consistent wages raises. It also avoids additional mediation and/or a potential Presidential Emergency Board, as well as a repeat of binding arbitration, which settled the last bargaining round on Amtrak in 2014.

"Overall, we protected the members against the vicious and sustained assault Amtrak management pursued through most

of the bargaining round," Penn Fed General Chairman Dodd said. "While it isn't every single thing we wanted, our wage increases are not eaten up by increases in healthcare cost-sharing, co-payments or deductibles. Our work rules, which Amtrak has aggressively targeted are unchanged and protected for at least another 3-1/2 vears."

The rates of pay increases are as follows:

1.25 percent effective July 20151.5 percent effective July 20161.5 percent effective July 2017

2.75 percent effective July 2018

3.0 percent effective July 20193.75 percent effective July 2020

3.75 percent effective July 2021



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## **Change of Address Request**

Please remember to notify your System Office or the National Division of any change of address or telephone number. It is vital that this information be kept current. Railroad employers do not always provide this information to the BMWED. Phone numbers can be found at BMWE.org.

Do you have an interesting hobby or a great story to tell? Pictures from a recent lodge meeting or event? We want to hear and see them. Contact the Journal at:

cballew@bmwe.org

# **BMWE Division**

APRIL-MAY-JUNE, 2018 ■BMWE DIVISION JOURNAL ■VOLUME 127 ■ NUMBER 2

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Perry K. Geller, Sr. Secretary-Treasure

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BMWED Amtrak MOW employees
ratify new contract
A Helping Hand: Financial Assistance for
Families of Deceased Railway Employees 2
Bylaws
Candidates running for office 4-8
A Reminder on Holiday Rules 8
A Vice President Speaks 9

2018 BMWED Scholarship Winners
BMWED Scholarship Essay Excerpts 11
Retirement Changes During
03/01/2018 to 04/29/2018
Roll of Honor
Death Benefits Department
President's Perspective

Obituary: Brother Luke J. Gsell . . . . . . . . . . . . . 16



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### A HELPING HAND

Financial Assistance for Families of Deceased Railway Employees

The John Edgar Thomson Foundation, established in 1882 and endowed by the will of Mr. Thomson, third President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, offers limited financial assistance to daughters of a deceased parent. The parent, regardless of gender, must have been in the active employ of a railroad in the United States at the time of death. The cause of death need not be work-related and the parent, while on the active role of the railroad, may have been receiving disability or sick leave benefits. Whatever grant is awarded usually serves to benefit all members of the family. Eligibility is dependent upon the daughter and surviving parent remaining unmarried.

The monthly allowance made under the grant may cover the period from infancy to age 18, under certain circumstances to age 24, to assist grantees who are pursuing higher educational goals. The Foundation also offers special health care benefits.

The funding for the work of the Foundation is completely independent of any railroad. It neither solicits nor receives funds from the public. Further information and applications may be obtained by writing to:

#### Linda Dezenski, Director

The John Edgar Thomson Foundation 201 S. Eighteenth Street, Suite 318 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103 Telephone (215) 545-6083 (800) 888-1278

Fax (215) 545-5102

E-mail: sjethomson@aol.com www.jethomsonfoundation.com We can also be found on Facebook and Google



BMWEDJOURNAL





### 2018 Las Vegas

#### 2018 PROPOSAL NO. 1 **ELECTION, TERM OF OFFICE, ELIGIBILITY AND RIGHTS OF CANDIDACY FOR NATIONAL DIVISION OFFICE** SUBMITTED BY PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION JOINT PROTECTIVE BOARD

ARTICLE I, (CHANGE) SECTION 4 (1ST PARAGRAPH) TO READ:

The National Division Officers shall be members of a BMWED lodge and shall be nominated and elected at the regular quadrennial Conventions of the National Division by a representative majority vote of the duly accredited delegates elected by secret ballot. In the event balloting results in no candidate winning a majority vote (a number greater than half of the total possible votes), the candidate garnering the fewest votes shall be dropped from the ballot, and a run-off ballot will be conducted. If there is only one nominee for an office, there shall be no ballot for that position, and the nominee will be declared elected. The five (5) Vice Presidents and the five (5) members Four (4) Vice Presidents and four (4) members of the Executive Board shall be from a System Division or Federation in his respective region and shall be nominated and elected by delegates from his respective region. Provided, further, that the National Division President, the National Division Secretary Treasurer and the National Division Vice President at Large shall be nominated and elected by a representative majority vote of all of the delegates. Vice President and two (2) members of the Executive Board shall be from any System Division or Federation and may be nominated by any delegate, regardless of region. Those officers so nominated at election may be referred to as "at-large." National Division Officers shall serve for a term of four (4) years unless removed by death, resignation or for cause, and shall be eligible for re-election. They shall be installed during the session of the National Division Convention in which they are elected, their installation and term of office to be effective commencing September 1 following election except in the case of filling an unexpired term, when such Officer shall take charge of his office immediately upon being elected and he shall serve for the remainder of the term; provided, however, that the term of office of any temporary National Division Officer will expire immediately upon the election and installation of his successor. Any vacancy in such office, temporary or permanent in nature, shall be filled in accordance with the terms of these Bylaws.

#### 2018 PROPOSAL NO. 2 ELECTION, TERM OF OFFICE, ELIGIBILITY AND RIGHTS OF **CANDIDACY FOR NATIONAL DIVISION OFFICE** SUBMITTED BY PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION JOINT PROTECTIVE BOARD

ARTICLE I (CHANGE) SECTION 4, (1ST PARAGRAPH) TO READ:

The National Division Officers shall be members of a BMWED lodge and shall be nominated and elected at the regular quadrennial Conventions of the National Division by a representative majority vote of the duly accredited delegates elected by secret ballot. elected by secret ballot of the rank and file in a mail in ballot. In the event balloting results in no candidate winning a majority vote (a number greater than half of the total possible votes), the candidate garnering the fewest votes shall be dropped from the ballot, and a run-off ballot will be conducted. If there is only one nominee for an office, there shall be no ballot for that position, and the nominee will be declared elected. Four (4) Vice Presidents and four (4) members The five (5) Vice Presidents and the five (5) members of the

Executive Board shall be from a System Division or Federation in his respective region and shall be nominated by delegates from his respective region. Vice President and two (2) members of the Executive Board shall be from any System Division or Federation and may be nominated by any delegate, regardless of region. Those officers so nominated at election may be referred to as "at-large." National Division Officers shall serve for a term of four (4) years unless removed by death, resignation or for cause, and shall be eligible for re-election. They shall be installed during the session of the National Division Convention in which they are elected, their installation and term of office to be effective commencing September 1 following election except in the case of filling an unexpired term, when such Officer shall take charge of his office immediately upon being elected and he shall serve for the remainder of the term; provided, however, that the term of office of any temporary National Division Officer will expire immediately upon the election and installation of his successor. Any vacancy in such office, temporary or permanent in nature, shall be filled in accordance with the terms of these Bylaws.

Article I, (ADDITIONAL) Section 4 (1st Paragraph) TO READ:

The first rank and file election of National Division officers shall occur in 2019 and shall be by mail ballot rank and file vote of the members in good standing in the following manner:

- 1. Candidates for office shall mail their declaration for office via certified mail, return receipt requested, into the National Division Secretary Treasurer between January 1, and January 31 of the year of the election and declare for the office they are seeking. A candidate may only declare his/her candidacy for one National Division office in any election year.
- 2. In the March issue of the Brotherhood Journal or similar monthly Brotherhood publication that is mailed by the National Division to each member in good standing, the Brotherhood shall print information in a uniform format for each candidate: candidates picture; position they are seeking; age; current position in the brotherhood; railroad occupation(s); home railroad; lodge and System Division; previous position(s) held in the Brotherhood; educational background; and other positions held in the Trade Union movement. Candidates shall provide this information via certified mail to the Journal's Associate Editor complying with reasonable time limits established by the Associate Editor.
- 3. The Brotherhood Journal or similar publication shall print statements provided by each candidate in each issue for the months of March, **April and May as follows:** 
  - 1000 words or less in each of the March, April and May issues of the Journal or similar monthly publication, written by each candidate for National Division President and National Division Secretary Treasurer.
  - 750 words or less in each of March, April and May issues of the Journal or similar monthly publication, written by each candidate for National Division Vice President.
  - 500 words or less in each of the March, April and May issues of the Journal or similar monthly publication, written by each candidate for Grand Lodge Executive Board.

Continued on Page 12

APRIL-MAY-JUNE 2018

# **Candidates for National Division Office**

### Freddie N. Simpson and John Mozinski Jr. (candidates for President)



Freddie N. Simpson

a privilege I take with utmost importance. During my tenure, I've worked closely with

It is an honor to serve as BMWED President,

your National Division Officers in moving our Brotherhood forward and securing our place as a progressive and strong union.

Recently, organized labor has encountered repeated attempts to implement right-to-work and other detrimental legislation at both the state and national levels. Through the establishment of the BMWED Internal Organizing program, and with the assistance of our Systems and Federations, we've built a stronger voice and greater unity amongst our rank-and-file membership. Within the halls of Congress, our Brotherhood has maintained the influence needed to help construct laws that protect the rights and safety of our members.

Hello my name is John Mozinski Jr. I am honored, humbled, and so excited to be announcing my candidacy for the position of National Division President.

I believe now is the time to make changes. I am the best candidate for the position. We must evolve as a union while making sure to get all members involved. I have been a BMWED member for twelve years. I'm a fifth generation railroader and fourth generation union member. I'm not going to bore you with a long paragraph. I could go on forever. By the time you receive this I will have put out roughly six to seven videos and the same number of newsletters going in depth about myself and my beliefs. I'm doing all my campaign information online with a weekly newsletter and a weekly video. If you don't do stuff online call me or text 701-741-4316. If you're online, please add me:

I believe our Brotherhood will encounter additional challenges over the next four years, and I wish to lead the fight on the membership's behalf. If re-elected, I will help prepare the next generation to meet those challenges. Currently, I believe our Union is equipped and thriving. Nearly all of the newly elected officers during my previous tenure have attended advanced training on the duties they will face as BMWED representatives.

I have been a proud member of the BMWED for 40 years, and have served at the local, system and national level. I continue to serve as both your BMWED National Division President and IBT International Vice President.

I thank you all for your past support and ask that you honor me once again with the opportunity to continue as your President.

Facebook: John Mozinski Jr. Snapchat: jmozinski YouTube Channel: John Mozinski Jr. Email: jmozinski@gmail.com

VOTE Mozinski 2018! Putting the WE back in BMWED!



John Mozinski Jr.

### **David D. Joynt (candidate for Secretary-Treasurer)**



David D. Joynt

This is to advise I am seeking the position of National Division Secretary-Treasurer and am respectfully asking for your support.

I am seeking this office as I feel I can help advance the S-T Department while working in unison with the President's Department. There are some great people in the S-T Department and I believe with the proper leadership they can thrive and move the Department forward. The S-T Department does a great job of servicing our Locals and System/Federations today, but change is always necessary to keep improving and to provide the best service possible.

We all know the ever-present threat of National Right-To-Work Legislation and if it would become reality, I feel that I have the experience and the working relationship with all departments of the BMWED to lead us through such difficult times.

While I have spent most of my career work-

ing in the protective side of the Brotherhood, I believe I've always had a good working relationship with the S-T Department and the personnel there.

This Brotherhood has been very good to me over the years and my only goal as I near the end of my career is to do whatever I can to strengthen our union and make it the best that it can be when I leave.

I strongly believe where I can make the most positive contributions to improving the BMWED is in the S-T position. I am asking for your vote at the National Division Convention.

BMWEDJOURNAL

Fraternally yours, **David Joynt** 

## **Bruce Glover, Jed Dodd, Louis Below (candidates for Vice President)**



**Bruce Glover** 

**Experience Knowledgeable Confidence** 

I am running for National Division Vice President, Northwest Region. This is what I bring to the position.

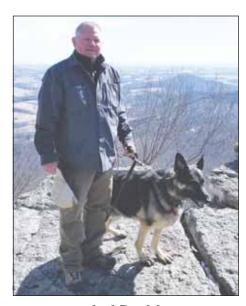
As a first-term Vice President, not one day went by where an Officer of the Region didn't seek my advice, history of an Agreement, help crafting a letter, or help advocating for a position. At times, they just want moral support when the going gets rough. I am anxious to continue to offer my experience because it helps our Members and helps our Union.

Union Officer jobs are not as easy as you might hope. Looking forward, we are going to face challenges that, if handled improperly, can put our Union, its Members, and our future in peril. If you want a Union with the ability to fight for you, that has the cunning and expertise you expect and pay for, you need Officers that have

"been there," know the tricks from the traps, and can lead the way. Today is not the day for mistakes that are borne from lack of knowledge or experience. I am your Candidate that can hit the ground running and contribute; fighting the battle we face every day, in our effort to improve the lives of BMWED Members.

My record is proven, my knowledge established, and I am ready to work for you with the confidence and integrity you deserve. I am asking for your support at the 4th Regular BMWED convention this June.

Thank you. In Solidarity, Bruce Glover



**Jed Dodd** 

It is my desire to use my 42 years of experience, knowledge and tactical skills to advance our collective struggles. I have served as President and Local Chairman of Lodge 3068. As General Chairman of the Pennsylvania Federation, I have chaired the Amtrak and Conrail Bargaining Committees since 1983 and the Norfolk Southern Bargaining Committee since 1999.

In these positions, I have argued before Presidential Emergency Boards and testified before Congress with good results. I have led many local strikes including a Conrail safety strike that forced the FRA to issue regulations to protect Roadway Workers from moving trains and equipment. I chaired the committee that negotiated these regulations with the FRA and the railroad industry. I have been the Labor

member arguing hundreds of cases before various arbitration boards. These awards established good precedent in contracting out-of-work disputes, work-week issues, and returned hundreds of fired workers back to work. I earned a BA degree in Labor Studies from Livingston College and a MS Degree from Cornell/Baruch Universities while working on the railroad. I have been arrested dozens of times defending our Union.

If elected I will pursue militant, class-based tactics and ideologies to protect our Union and to advance the working class. To this end, we must further democratize the decision making within our rank-and-file and join our natural allies in the broader working class struggles to ensure a decent standard of living for all Americans.



**Louis Below** 

I would like to announce that I am submitting my name for nomination to the position of Vice President-West Region. I do not make this announcement half-hearted or without any regard to the importance of the position. I am very excited, concerned and anxious about the future of this organization. I will work to ensure that the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes Division (BMWED) moves in a forward direction with the best possible representation and leadership that I can provide.

I won't make you a campaign promise to do this or that. I won't promise to make one thing or another happen. Campaign promises are for those who are insecure or unsure of their own abilities. My pledge to you is to work for our members to the best of my ability and to utilize all of the tools available to me for the best possible representation.

I also know that I can't do it alone. It takes a great team to succeed in this anti-labor atmosphere and I think the USD has one of the best in the BMWED. Yes, it takes an experienced, dedicated and hard-working team to fight all of those who wish to tear us down. That's why I'm excited to be part of one of the most experienced teams in Rail Labor.

Should you decide to join me in my pledge to work with President Simpson and the experienced Rail Labor Leaders on his team, I would be honored to have your support.

### Rober Sanchez, Sean Gerie (candidates for Vice President)



**Roger Sanchez** 

I am announcing my candidacy for Vice President South Region of the BMWED/IBT and respectively ask for your support. I began my railroad carrier in 1974 on the Southern Pacific Railroad.

During my years in the Brotherhood, I've served as a Local Lodge President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Assistant-State Legislative Director (Texas), General Chairman, Assistant General Chairman, and Executive Board member of the former Southern Pacific Atlantic Federation.

I currently serve as an advisor for the BMWED Diversity Committee. I was also appointed in 2005 as a Commissioner of the IBT Human Rights Diversity Commission by General President Hoffa and BMWED President Simpson.

I have served since 2006 as one of your Vice Presidents and can assure you that the BMWED has taken positive steps to ensure that all the members will be represented by a strong union with a viable future.

I am happy to be part of that process and have worked closely with other National Division Officers, System/Division Officers and especially the membership since having the opportunity to hold this position to ensure the right course for the future of our union.

I appreciate your trust and confidence in allowing me to serve as your Southern Region Vice President. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank each of you for your support as I seek re-election.

I understand the need to listen to the membership's voice in order to represent and serve our entire membership equally and fairly as your Southern Region Vice President.



Sean D. Gerie

Brothers and Sisters,

I'm Sean Gerie and I am running for the office of Northeast Region Vice President.

I have been a member of this Union for virtually my entire adult life. I was twenty years old when I first started working on the railroad.

Raised in a pro-Union family, attending Union meetings and supporting the Brotherhood was not something that I ever had to think about — It's simply what you do.

Immediately becoming active in the Union, I quickly gained a reputation for standing up to the bosses and fighting on behalf of the members

At age 25, I was elected President of Local 2910 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Since then I have also been elected to serve as Executive Board Chairman, Vice Chairman/ Secretary -Treasurer, Assistant State Legislative Director, General Chairman, and in 2014, I was elected to the office I currently hold and am seeking re-election to — Vice President of the Northeast Region.

The satisfaction that I have gotten from serving on behalf of the membership and receiving their confidence to continue doing so cannot be measured. I am extremely grateful for the support that I have received over the years.

I ask for your support because I have a proven track record as an effective leader and also because I have the courage and commitment to address the next round of issues that face us in the future as well.

I thank you and respectfully ask for your vote.

In Unity,

-Sean

### Dale E. Bogart, Jr. (candidate for Executive Board)



Dale E. Boart, Jr.

With honor and enthusiasm, I formally announce my candidacy for Member of the National Division Executive Board for the Northeast Region.

My railroad career began as a Trackman on CP Rail (Former Delaware & Hudson) in 1999, where I eventually worked as Machine Operator and Track Foreman. I have actively served this Union almost as long as I have been member. Over the past 16 years I have had the honor and privilege of serving the membership in many Local and System roles up to and including my current role as NESF General Chairman, which I've held since 2012. In that time, NESF has secured over \$3 million in lost wages for our members in Rules & Discipline Claims.

As General Chairman of a smaller System Federation, and with assistance of the NESF JPB, I continue to handle all business and

administrational issues for the NESF, where the memberships' interests remain our top priority. I believe that having the right people ready to take on the challenges we are certain to face — not only from the Carriers, but also from outside political forces intent to destroy labor — is key to protecting our accomplishments and ensuring continued success. As a Member first, then Officer, my commitment remains to continue working with others to achieve future victories for our Members and continued success for this Brotherhood.

I look to carry these principles as your next Northeastern Region Executive Board Member. I humbly and respectfully ask for your support.

BMWEDJOURNAL

### David L. Carroll, Dennis R. Albers, Jack E. David (candidates for Executive Board)



**David L. Carroll** 

I am honored to take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for re-election to the position of Member to the BMWED National Division Executive Board, Northwest Region. I began my railroading career in June of 1976 working as Maintenance of Way Employe belonging to the BMWE. I was hired by BN in May of 1979. From the onset of my railroading experience the old heads diligently taught me the importance of a strong Union and you must be involved to make the Union stronger. It takes us All to accomplish this feat.

My chance to serve the membership began as a Local Chairman of Lodge 104 in Spokane, WA. I was elected to a Vice General Chairman's position on the Burlington Northern System Federation and then re-elected to the same position. In 2014 during the intern I was elected to the General Chairman's position for the Burlington Northern System Federation, and

again re-elected in 2016. Subsequently, I have since been elected to the position of President of the BNSF General Chairman's Association and Vice Chairman of the BMWED Northwest Region Association. It is with great honor and dignity that I serve those positions for which the membership has entrusted me with.

My longevity and experience, along with knowledge gained from those I work with and those who came before me, has taught me that it certainly takes us All to fight the greedy Carriers.

I respectfully ask for your support as I seek re-election for this position.

David L. Carroll



**Dennis R. Albers** 

I am honored to announce my candidacy for reelection to the position of National Division Executive Board Members from the BMWED South Region.

I was hired by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad 46 years ago and have been an active member ever since. I have served our union in one capacity or another almost since the day I first became a member. I served as Secretary Treasurer for Local Lodge 1162, and on the Joint Protective Board for the former B&O System Federation prior to election to the position of Vice Chairman for the former CSX Federation. I have held every position within the federation structure and currently serve as General Chairman for the Allied Federation, a position I have held for twelve years. During this time the Allied Federation has more than doubled in membership. I also currently serve on the National Division

Executive Board as Chairman, the position I am now again seeking.

Over the past few years I have worked closely with representatives to assure that our union remains strong and focused. I believe I have the experience and knowledge to continue helping move our union forward. If allowed to remain in this position, I will continue to work with your leadership to secure the future of our Organization.

I would like to take this opportunity to express appreciation to the membership for allowing me to serve this great Brotherhood, and humbly ask for your support as I seek reelection to the National Division Executive Board.



Jack E. David

It is both an honor and privilege to announce my candidacy for re-election to the position of BMWED National Division Executive Board Member.

I have been a proud member of the BMWED since 1976 when I hired onto the Norfolk Southern Railroad. During my time I have served as Local Chairman of Lodge 301, Vice General Chairman of the former Wabash Federation, First Vice Chairman of the Affiliated System Federation, my current position as General Chairman of the Affiliated System Federation and for the last four years as member of the BMWED National Division Executive Board.

The experience and knowledge that I bring to the table is almost equally divided between my time as a member working for NS and my time working as a union representative for the BMWED. If re-elected, I will continue to use my experience and involvement to make common sense decisions for the betterment and good of ALL the membership.

The last four years has allowed me the opportunity to share my passion for the Union cause while working with other National Division Officers. It has truly been educational and rewarding to serve in this capacity. I would be greatly honored, motivated and eager to serve my Brothers and Sisters for another four years. Humbly, I ask for your support as I seek this office for a second term.

### Jeffery L. Fry, Staci Moody-Gilbert (candidates for Executive Board)



Jeffery L. Fry

Brothers and Sisters,

It is my desire to serve this Union as the BMWED National Division Executive Board Member from the West Region. I humbly ask for your support. My experience will allow me to be an asset to this great Organization as we move into the future.

I hired onto the BNSF Railway in March 1998 in Jonesboro, AR. I immediately became an active member by attending my local lodge meetings, doing my part as a union member to support this great organization.

Since, I have served our union as a Local Lodge Officer and Arkansas State Legislative Director. As the State Legislative Director, I helped advance legislation and candidates that benefited our union brothers and sisters. I have also served as a part-time and full-time ATSFF System Federation Officer. In June 2017, during our ATSFF Quadrennial Convention, I was

elected as the General Chairman of the ATSFF System Federation. Later, in October 2017, I was elected to the BMWED National Division Executive Board from the West Region and still maintain both positions.

I have worked in the various sub-departments of the Maintenance of Way craft. I know firsthand the life of a railroader and what it means to our families.

In these difficult times, I will bring my experience and dedicate it to protecting our union.

I respectfully ask for your support as I seek re-election to the position of the BMWED National Division Executive Board from the West Region.

Thank you.



Staci Moody-Gilbert

I am honored to announce my candidacy for election to the BMWED National Division Executive Board At-Large. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the Brothers and Sisters of this great Brotherhood for the past four years as Executive Board Secretary.

My experience began twenty-five years ago when I was hired on the Burlington Northern Railroad as a track laborer. Since that first day I have understood the importance of a strong union and the protection it provides me and my co-workers.

Working with the members and officers of this union, serving our Brothers and Sisters as Local Lodge 1214 Secretary-Treasurer, as a Vice General Chairwoman and current second term General Chairwoman of the Burlington System Division, Secretary-Treasurer of the Northwest Region Association, and Secretary of the National Division Executive Board has given

me the opportunity to gain experience by being appointed to different

committees, gaining experience at the bargaining table, and daily opportunities to fight for the rights we have today as union members, to improve wages and working conditions for our members and improve the general well-being of our members and their families.

I will continue to keep the best interest of the hard-working men and women of this union first and foremost in our daily struggles as each and every member deserves better wages, better working conditions and better benefits!

Once again, I respectfully and humbly request your support and ask that I may continue serving our members in this capacity.

# A Reminder on Holiday Rules

If you are a furloughed employee of a railroad covered by the U.S. National Agreement with at least 60 days of seniority or 60 calendar days of continuous service preceding a covered holiday, and if you had compensation paid by the carrier credited to 11 or more of the 30 calendar days immediately preceding the holiday, you may be entitled to pay for that holiday even though you are furloughed.

For detailed information contact your General Chairperson.

### The complete list of holidays are:

- New Year's Day
   President's Day
   Good Friday
   Memorial Day
   Fourth of July
   Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day Day after Thanksgiving Christmas Eve (the day before Christmas is observed)
- Christmas Day
   New Year's Eve (the day before New Year's Day is observed)

# A Vice President Speaks

### Let's work together to help end "pain pill" addiction



Sean D. Gerie Vice President - Northeast Region

It was Benjamin Franklin that once said, "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

Anyone who has even the slightest idea about who good 'ole Ben was and what he contributed to our Nation would most surely agree - he was a very intelligent man.

Knowledge can be a tricky thing though. People may very much "think" that they "know," only to find out later that they were either misinformed, uneducated, or flat out lied to about the issue at hand.

Let's take the issue of "pain management" for instance. BMWED members routinely perform duties that can occasionally result in unfortunate injuries and/or medical conditions that cause discomfort or pain.

As far back as 1996, some medical professionals started to change their approach to what they called "pain management." There was a growing trend that sought to add a patient's level of pain to the list of the already existing

four vital signs (blood pressure, body temperature, heart rate, and breathing).

Physicians were encouraged to check those vitals — as they had always done — but they were also told (possibly made) to additionally ask what level of pain a patient felt and to give a rating of a range from one to ten.

It was also right around this time that new drugs were being manufactured, marketed, and distributed with the promise of a new dawn in the world of - you guessed it - "pain killers."

It is not my intention or desire to politicize the issue or to place blame with this column. My true aim is to give a review over what we "thought" we "knew" about pain meds and what we really should be paying attention to today.

Our country is experiencing an opioid crisis that is worse than ever - and many indications are that it is about to get even worse. In March of 2018, the National Institute on Drug Abuse reported that more than 115 people die every day in the United States from opioid overdoses. That statistic only includes fatalities. There are countless other overdoses that take place as

Why write about this issue in the Journal? Maybe a better question would be why not?

BMWED members come from all over the country and from all kinds of backgrounds. If there is one thing that needs to be understood about the opioid crisis it is this: it does not discriminate. This is not an issue that only effects any one group of people or populace.

While recreational drug use can contribute to the problem, you may be surprised to learn that the vast majority of people who developed opioid addiction did not voluntarily get there through so-called "gateway" drugs.

Automobile accidents, work place, and

sports-related injuries comprise the biggest percentage of people who develop addictions to

A core principle of any Labor Union is to protect their members and to advance causes that best serve their interests. We cannot just pretend that this problem does not exist and simply hope for the best. We must bring awareness to this epidemic and look for ways to help protect our members and their families. We have a responsibility to educate ourselves and to help our Brothers and Sisters.

It was also Ben Franklin that said, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Talk with your friends and families about the dangers of these highly-addictive medications. Dispel the notions that is "just a pill" or that it is "OK to use because it was prescribed."

Advocate for treatment that does not require their use. Studies have shown that opioids only mask or hide the pain and actually do not alleviate pain any better than acetaminophen (Tylenol) in most instances.

Carefully monitor your medicine cabinets in your homes. Human nature often lends itself to curiosity. Remove temptation by properly discarding any leftover medications.

If you or someone you know is struggling with this issue, urge them to seek treatment. We must do a better job of removing the negative stereotypes and stop condemning people when we should be helping them.

For more information regarding substance abuse treatment, contact your System and Federation officers. They will help you find assistance and care.

Let's work collectively in the BMWED to invest in this knowledge and help our Brothers and Sisters collect on the interest.



WE

If you have a special hobby or talent, hold public office, or have a story you would like to share, we would like to hear from you. Share your story with our BMWED Brothers and Sisters in the BMWED Journal.

**HEAR** 

**WANT TO** 

Please send us your pictures and brief details along with a name, address and telephone number.

**FROM** 

You may email <a href="mailto:cballew@bmwe.org">cballew@bmwe.org</a> or send by U.S. Mail to:

> **BMWED Journal** c/o Clark Ballew 41475 Gardenbrook Road Novi, MI 48375-1328

YOU

# **2018 BMWED SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**



Elisabeth "Lissy" Shortall

Elisabeth "Lissy" Shortall, 17, daughter of BMWED member Stephen Shortall. Brother Shortall is a member of Northeastern System Federation Local Lodge 228 and works on AMTRAK out of Rhode Island. His daughter Lissy is graduating high school in June and has not yet decided on which college she will be attending. However, when speaking about her future endeavors in her scholarship application, Lissy stated: "I wish to dedicate my life to painting a narrative for others to view and interpret in their own ways, ideally through advertising and/or film."

BMWED: What are your career aspirations? Where do you see yourself going in your career? What do you hope to accomplish?

Lissy Shortall: Throughout my life I have considered myself a creator. Any school assignment in which I have to create something outside of the box such as a poster, brochure, video project, or slide show automatically compels me to make an amazing piece of art to wow my teacher and peers. It's important to me that my future career allows me to use my creative energy and can challenge me, and after researching for years, I have decided that the advertising industry will allow me to use such creative energy along with consistency so I can eventually provide for a family of my own someday. I am a very diligent worker dedicated to putting forth my best effort, thus I can only see myself succeeding in this industry, hopefully becoming more and more skilled as time goes on. I hope to become a successful worker but above all, I hope to be happy everyday while going to work.

BMWED: If you become a business owner or a manager of people within a company, how do you plan to treat your employees?

Lissy Shortall: If I were to become a business owner or manager of people within a company I would simply treat my employees the way I would want to be treated. It is important that we have mutual respect for one another and have a positive attitude toward work and the company. I would get to know my employees and their work habits, strengths, and weak-

10

nesses so that I better understand how they function as employees and how they can generate their best work for the company. It is also important to me that excellent work does not go unrecognized and I would be sure to constantly have a positive attitude, rewarding those worthy with bonuses, vacation days, etcetera.

BMWED: How has your parents' working careers influence what you envision for yours?

Lissy Shortall: My parents working careers has influenced me by demonstrating that in order to obtain nice things and live the life you want, you must work for it. By observing their working habits, I have learned that you get out of life what you put into it. Though work at times may seem exasperating it is simply a necessity to becoming a more well-rounded person. With hard work, education, and persistence great things can ultimately be obtained. Rather than wishing and hoping for better, I have learned that the only way to get better is to work for your goals.



**Anna Williams** 

Anna Williams, 19, daughter of BMWED member Adam Williams. Brother Williams is a member of lodge 2729 of the Allied Federation and works on Union Pacific out of Arkansas. His daughter Anna will be attending the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville. Anna plans to keep furthering her education and find a career in the Human Resources area, where she can utilize the invaluable lessons about support and community she learned growing up in a union household.

BMWED: What are your career aspirations? Where do you see yourself going in your career? What do you hope to accomplish?

Anna Williams: Currently, I'm pursuing a business degree. My goal is to become a Human Resources Manager. Throughout high school I had an interest in social work, and after working in retail and insurance, I have an equal interest in business. I hope to study how to connect employees with jobs where they can find success and happiness.

BMWED: If you become a business owner or a manager of people within a company, how do you plan to treat your employees?

Anna Williams: I plan to treat my employees with fairness and respect. I believe that understanding accountability is the key to success, and I will work to ensure that employees are mindful of how their individual job performance impacts the overall success of the company. I will strive to create a positive working environment where problems are discussed openly and solved effectively.

BMWED: How has your parents' working careers influenced what you envision for yours?

Anna Williams: My father has worked for Union Pacific Railroad for almost 17 years. He is a dedicated railroader, dedicated husband, and most of all a dedicated father. I admire my father's work ethic and he has taught me to always put passion into my work. I've watched him advance in his career through the years, and our family shares in the pride he has for his work. My father's career has allowed our family to live a comfortable life, travel, pursue our education, and receive good healthcare benefits. I hope to find equal security in my future career. My father was diagnosed with cancer in October and the support he has received from his union and co-workers has been overwhelming. We are forever grateful for every word of encouragement my father has received from his brothers during this difficult time. He is now in remission and will continue to fight until he is cancer free.

My mother works as homeless liaison for Batesville School District. Her work has inspired my love of social work. Her career as an educator, and working to make sure homeless students receive an equal education, has inspired me to look beyond impossibilities. My mother often goes above and beyond to serve her students to the best of her ability.

I contribute much of my success and aspirations to my parents. I envision becoming a business woman with the strength of my father, and loving nature of my mother, with a big twist of my own individuality. Thank you all for this opportunity!

On the following page are BMWED Scholarship essay excerpts from applicants on how the BMWED has impacted their lives.



BMWEDJOURNAL

# **BMWED Scholarship Essay Excerpts** How the BMWED has impacted my life

Based upon the 2017 scholarship applications received, it is clear that the children and dependents of BMWED members understand and appreciate the role of the BMWED in their personal lives. The BMWED Scholarship program requires each applicant to submit an essay of 300 words or less describing "How the BMWED has impacted my life." Below are some selected excerpts drawn from student essays submitted with their BMWED Scholarship applications. All excerpts are from children and dependents of BMWED members.

"Knowing/seeing how hard my dad has worked for [Union Pacific], and for our family gives me tremendous gratitude to the [union] and to my dad as well. Without this [union] my dad wouldn't be able to provide for his family like he has and still does. Not just financially, but physically and mentally." Julisa A.—Searcy, AR

"The BMWED has impacted my life in more ways than one—from the protection they provide my father while he is on the job, to the dentist we are able to visit every six months. They have helped provide services and opportunities in my life, and my family's life, that many people do not get the opportunity to have themselves."

Hollie B.—Buchanan, VA

"By being a member of the BMWED our family has been able to get our feet securely on the ground because of the wonderful protections and compensation my father was awarded because of the contract the BMWED had secured for him and his union brothers." Christian L.—Quinton, VA

"Unions are an important piece of the puzzle for middle class Americans. They are the backbone that guarantees full-time job security, safety in the workplace, health insurance, and probably most important, in my opinion, they are the key negotiator on an employee's behalf.

Overall, all unions are beneficial but the BMWED has directly affected my life. The BMWED has given my father and the rest of my family a voice in the BNSF railroad."

Darren L.-Mullen, NE

"The BMWED has impacted my life by allowing me to witness the dedication and exertion that is necessary in any profession to be successful as well as contribute to the greater good of society."

Ashley C.—Plymouth, IN

"Without the benefits they provided to him I would not have grown up in a comfortable middle-class lifestyle. Thanks to the BMWE my family has never has to worry about paying for medical or dental bills...The BMWE has greatly impacted my life by always standing up for hardworking middle-class employees such as my father."

Austin R.—Saint Clair, MO

"Being the son of a BMWED member has impacted my life in several ways. First and foremost, my father's job supports our family. In becoming older you realize the true price and difference in "wants" and "needs." Not only has my father's job allowed us to have a "roof over our head and food to eat," but his dedication to his job allowed me to participate in many sports activities and hobbies over the years." Nate W—Smithton, MO

"A few ways BMWED has impacted my life is providing quality healthcare, allowing reasonable living wages, and displaying the significance of standing together...Thousands of BMWED members nationwide stand together to achieve ambitions. Standing united has proven that whatever you set your mind to, you will achieve."

Jayden R—Trenton, MO

"My dad being a member of the BMWED has given my family and me opportunities and benefits of a life time. They have provided my father with a steady, positive working environment that also allowed him to still spend quality time with his family."

Megan B.—Dupo, IL

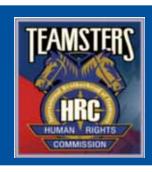
"It has offered [my dad] many benefits, which have also had a positive impact on my life. The BMWED has given my dad job security, paid vacations, and eight-hour work days' this has allowed him to spend more quality time with me while I was growing up." Kara S.—Ft. Gay, WV

"[Thanks] to the BMWED there are rules and regulations that keep [my dad] safe on the job so that my family doesn't have to worry about his

Louis B.—Buchanan, VA

Learn more about the Teamsters Human Rights Commission and how you can participate.

Contact BMWED Vice President Roger Sanchez at (281) 354-4812 or by email at lodge1507@aol.com.





### **QR Codes**

A QR code (Quick Response Code) is a two-dimensional code that can be scanned with a mobile phone to gain access to specific information via the mobile web.



Scan me to Visit the BMWED website!

Bylaws, Continued on Page 3

Candidates shall provide these written positions via certified mail to the Journal's Associate Editor complying with reasonable time limits established by the Associate Editor. Each candidate shall have the right under this provision to provide three different statements for publication, one for each issue of the Journal or similar publication for the months of March, April and May. Each candidate shall be treated equally and with respect to this section.

- 4. The election shall be supervised by an honest ballot counting association such as the American Arbitration Association or other generally recognized honest ballot counting association. The ballot counting association shall be selected by the National Division President and approved by a vote of the National Division officers.
- 5. Ballots shall be mailed on June 1, 2019 and each member eligible to receive a ballot shall be provided with a prepaid return envelope in which to mail their ballots back to the Honest Ballot counting association. Ballots shall be counted on June 25 at 6:00 PM. If June 25 is a Saturday, Sunday or national holiday the ballots shall be counted at 6:00 PM on the next regular business day following June 25. The candidate receiving the most votes in each category shall be declared the winner.
- 6. The winners shall be assume office on September 1 of the election year. Winners who are not incumbents shall be compensated as if they were already assuming office for their positions during the interim months of July and August and the departing officer shall cooperate fully with the winner during the interim month of office to insure an orderly transition.
- 7. The President, Secretary Treasurer and Vice President at Large shall be elected at large in the general membership. Other National Division officers shall be elected by the members in the regions for which they are seeking election.
- 8. This new procedure will take effect immediately. Current incumbent officers shall remain in office pending election in 2019. Any language in the By-Laws which are in conflict with this new language will be amended to reflect the meaning and substance of this new language.

In 2019 and each successive four years, election of National Division officers shall be by mail ballot rand and file vote of the members in good standing in the same manner.

# 2018 PROPOSAL NO. 3 HANDLING OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS SUBMITTED BY WISCONSIN CENTRAL SYSTEM DIVISION GENERAL CHAIRMAN JOE LETIZIA

ARTICLE III, (CHANGE) SECTION 16 (2ND PARAGRAPH), TO READ:

Section 16 (2nd Paragraph). The National Division President shall not have the power to enter into any agreement other than national agreements without the written consent of the affected General Chairmen (Chairman). If the National Division President is not able to receive the written consent of all affected General Chairmen, he shall have the right to submit such agreement directly to the affected rank and file. either national or otherwise resulting from a Section 6 notice without the approval of the majority of those members in good standing participating by a ratification vote. Such ratification vote shall be by mail ballot referendum to all members in good standing covered by such agreement. Such vote will be conducted by an impartial ballot counting company. If the agreement is ratified, the National Division President shall be empowered to enter into the agreement.

# 2018 PROPOSAL NO. 4 DUES STRUCTURE SUBMITTED BY LOCAL LODGE #320

ARTICLE XV (CHANGE) SECTION 3 (1ST PARAGRAPH), TO READ:

Section 3 (1st Paragraph). Each member shall be required to pay all BMWED dues and assessments. National Division dues shall be adjusted each January to reflect one and three-tenths (1.3) of the average straight time hourly rate of pay for each of the three rate classifications listed in Paragraph 3.8 of the Merger Agreement. The average straight time hourly rate of pay for standard contracts will be based on the information reflected in the annual statement published by the National Railway Labor Conference which shall be used as an equivalent formula. In the event that the National Railway Labor Conference ceases to publish the annual statement or alters it materially, and for non-standard and non-rail contracts listed in Paragraph 3.8 of the Merger Agreement, an alternate equivalent formula shall be adopted so as to accurately reflect increases in ratesof-pay provided for under Agreements during the appropriate measurement period. Said amounts shall be rounded to the nearest 25 cents, which additional sum shall be taken into consideration when calculating any dues increase for the following year. Provided, however, that notwithstanding a rail carrier's classification as Class II or III, where the average weighted straight-time hourly rate on such property falls within the range of hourly rates of standard contracts. National Division dues shall be that applicableto members working under standard contracts.

# 2018 PROPOSAL NO. 5 HANDLING OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS SUBMITTED BY LOCAL LODGE #320

ARTICLE III, (CHANGE) SECTION 16 (2ND PARAGRAPH), TO READ:

Section 16 (2nd Paragraph). The National Division President shall not have the power to enter into a National Agreement without a majority vote by the General Membership. The National Division President shall not have the power to enter into any agreement other than national agreements without the written consent of the affected General Chairmen (Chairman). If the National Division President is not able to receive the written consent of all affected General Chairmen, he shall have the right to submit such agreement directly to the affected rank and file. Such ratification vote shall be by mail ballot referendum to all members in good standing covered by such agreement. Such vote will be conducted by an impartial ballot counting company. If the agreement is ratified, the National Division President shall be empowered to enter into the agreement.

# 2018 PROPOSAL NO. 6 SALARIES OF NATIONAL DIVISION OFFICERS AND PERSONNEL SUBMITTED BY NATIONAL DIVISION

ARTICLE VII (ADD), SECTION 6 TO READ:

Section 6. National Division Officers and designated representatives shall receive a lump-sum allowance, in an amount determined from time to time by the Executive Board, which shall be paid monthly from the General Fund. This allowance is to compensate the Officer or representative for the expense and inconvenience of maintaining a BMWED office at his home base, and to cover incidental expenses incurred on the BMWED's behalf at home or while traveling, which are not otherwise claimed for reimbursement in accordance with Section 5 of this Article. It shall be paid and reported as part of the recipient's annual salary, but shall not be adjusted in the manner prescribed by Section 1 of this Article.

Sign up for BMWED News Alerts and get the latest news sent directly to your email account. To sign up visit the BMWED webpage at <a href="https://www.bmwe.org">www.bmwe.org</a>, or send your name and email address to <a href="mailto:dinclima@bmwe.org">dinclima@bmwe.org</a>, along with a request to be added to the BMWED News Alert list.

#### 2018 PROPOSAL NO. 7 **BMWED LEGISLATIVE BOARDS** SUBMITTED BY NATIONAL DIVISION

ARTICLE XII (ADD) SECTION 15 TO READ:

Section 15. Neither elections of officers nor any other business of a State Legislative Board shall be valid unless a quorum is present. A Legislative Convention quorum, at minimum, requires that at least one half of all Local Lodges eligible to be represented by a Local Legislative Representative must have such Representative or alternate in attendance.

If the positions of State Legislative Director or Assistant State Legislative Director are unfilled, due to a failure to conduct valid elections, the National Division President may appoint a member, otherwise eligible to hold such office, to serve the remainder of the then-current term.

#### 2018 PROPOSAL NO. 8 RECEIPTS FOR DUES, FEES AND ASSESSMENTS PAID SUBMITTED BY NATIONAL DIVISION

ARTICLE XVI (CHANGE) SECTION 1 (1ST PARAGRAPH), TO READ:

Section 1. The payment of fees, assessments and monthly dues shall be receipted for by a monthly serially-numbered official dues receipt card furnished by the National Division and bearing the National Division logo, provided, however, that in the case of employees of employers who are subject to dues check-off agreements, such individual payroll check stubs shall serve as their official dues receipt and evidence of the payment of dues. In addition to the foregoing, the National Division shall provide each remitter on checkoff with an annual dues receipt following January 1 of

each year, reflecting the dues paid by each remitter during the preceding 12-month period. Any such receipt must be completely filled out showing actual date of payment, name of remitter, identification number, date of birth, occupation, employer, Lodge number, month to which paid, amount paid and signature in full of the Local Lodge Secretary-Treasurer or authorized representative. An official receipt so issued and showing no erasure or alteration shall be recognized as evidence of good standing in the BMWED. No receipt for fees, assessments or dues other than on the official form furnished for this purpose by National Division shall be recognized as evidence of good standing in the BMWED. The National Division Secretary-Treasurer shall prescribe regulations to govern the issuance and reporting of official dues receipts, which regulations shall be rigidly complied with by all bonded Officers and representatives of the BMWED.

#### 2018 PROPOSAL NO. 9 **CLARIFICATION OF RATIFICATION OF SYSTEM AGREEMENTS** SUBMITTED BY BYLAWS COMMITTEE

ARTICLE III, (CHANGE) SECTION 16 (2ND PARAGRAPH), TO READ:

Section 16 (2nd Paragraph). The National Division President shall not have the power to enter into any system agreement other than national agreements without the written consent of the affected General Chairmen (Chairman). If the National Division President is not able to receive the written consent of all affected General Chairmen, he shall have the right to submit such agreement directly to the affected rank and file. either national or otherwise resulting from a Section 6 notice without the approval of the majority of those members in good standing participating by a ratification vote. Such ratification vote shall be by mail ballot referendum to all members in good standing covered by such agreement. Such vote will be conducted by an impartial ballot counting company. If the agreement is ratified, the National Division President shall be empowered to enter into the agreement.

### RETIREMENT CHANGES DURING 03/01/2018 TO 04/29/2018

DANIDAL LUADDENIDDOOK DUDNOD 073E

	*** June 2017 ***				RANDAL J HARDENBROOK	BURNOR	0735	BNSF	02/01/2018	
JOSEPH A BOBB AF 1252 UP 06/09/2017			06/09/2017	FRANCIS L BARDO	PENN	3030	NS	02/01/2018		
	ROBERT H GOMEZ	AF	1021	UP	06/24/2017	CHARLES M GRIMM	PENN	3006	NS	02/01/2018
	GLEN L HACKMAN	BURL	2852	BNSF	06/27/2017	TERRANCE A NOVAK	PENN	3047	NS	02/01/2018
	022.12.13.13.11.13.11	202	2002	5	00/2//2017	LOUIS J SACHER	PENN	3061	CSXT	02/01/2018
	*** July 2017 ***				L J MILLER	SOU	0660	NS	02/01/2018	
	LONNIE HESLIP	AF	1338	UP	07/01/2017	DOUGLAS W MORGAN	SOU	0546	NS	02/01/2018
	TEODORO SALAZAR	AF	2754	UP	07/16/2017	JEFFERY L EVELAND	BURL	0788	BNSF	02/02/2018
	J ESPINOZA	AF	0115	UP	07/24/2017	THOMAS J LATHROP	BURL	2852	BNSF	02/02/2018
	EDWARD F RIBBING	AF	0601	UP	07/25/2017	MICHAEL J NORRIS	BURL	1351	BNSF	02/02/2018
	EDWARD I RIBBIAG	7.11	0001	01	0772072017	JACK F FAUL	BURNOR	1326	BNSF	02/02/2018
	**	** August 2	017 ***			JIM J STEGGALL	BURL	1108	BNSF	02/03/2018
	ROBERT L DUKES	AF	1549	UP	08/01/2017	MARK N WEHRUNG	BURL	1074	BNSF	02/03/2018
	ALEJANDRO M GONZALEZ	AF	0644	UP	08/24/2017	STEVEN T HEIDZIG	BURL	0961	BNSF	02/06/2018
						STEVEN D LEO	<b>BURNOR</b>	0016	BNSF	02/08/2018
	***	September	r 2017 ***			ROBERT A GROOMS	AF	0601	UP	02/09/2018
	CECIL C DAWSON	AT&SFF	2409	BNSF	09/01/2017	JUSTIN M SALMONS	ASF	0226	NS	02/09/2018
	WILLIAM L CUNNINGHAM	AF	1252	UP	09/02/2017	RICHARD A WILLIAMSON	BURL	2852	BNSF	02/17/2018
	PATRICK H PICKENS	AF	0450	UP	09/11/2017	JEROME E GAEDKE	BURL	1214	BNSF	02/22/2018
	MICHAEL E TRUJILLO	AT&SFF	2415	BNSF	09/25/2017	RANDALL K DICKERSON	BURL	1108	BNSF	02/27/2018
	MARCUS P BECK	AT&SFF	2410	BNSF	09/30/2017	MICHAEL A MC COY	USD	1516	UP	02/28/2018
	JIMMY W MOSS JR	AT&SFF	1082	BNSF	09/30/2017	ROBERT F POHLNER	USD	0437	UP	02/28/2018
	FRANK TENA JR	AT&SFF	2410	BNSF	09/30/2017					
						**	* March 20	18 ***		
	**	** October 2	2017 ***			MARK A ABERCROMBIE	BURL	1490	S00	03/01/2018
	ALVIN LARKIN	AF	1549	UP	10/07/2017	MICHAEL F GETTERT	BURL	2852	BNSF	03/01/2018
	DANIEL D ROSENWINKLE	AF	1099	UP	10/31/2017	D D LEIBHART	BURL	1108	BNSF	03/01/2018
						JEFF G BEEHLER	BURNOR	0306	BNSF	03/01/2018
	***	December	2017 ***			MARVIN DALE	BURNOR		BNSF	03/01/2018
	LINDAL B PEACE	AF	1099	UP	12/06/2017	DENNIS A PHOENIX		0104	BNSF	03/01/2018
	JAMES M ROMANOWSKI	USD	0591	BRC	12/11/2017	LARRY B STEWART	BURNOR	2825	BNSF	03/01/2018
	JAMES M SAVAGE	USD	0508	UP	12/29/2017	W C JONES	SOU	0585	NS	03/01/2018
	JAMES R WOODY	USD	1020	UP	12/31/2017	LARRY T MASCARENAS	USD	0686	UP	03/01/2018
						DAVID G ZABOKRTSKY	USD	1133	UP	03/01/2018
	**	** January	2018 ***			DOUGLAS A DAMRON	ASF	1464	NS	03/02/2018
	DONALD J WESTBROOK JR	USD	0686	UP	01/01/2018	MICHAEL E TENNANT	BURL	1316	BNSF	03/02/2018
	PHILLIP P BURBIDGE	USD	0968	UP	01/04/2018	MARK A BOWATZ	BURNOR	1055	BNSF	03/02/2018
	H W STEELE	SOU	0636	NS	01/06/2018	KENNETH W PFAFF	BURNOR	0303	BNSF	03/03/2018
	GARY J LOWRY	AF	0965	UP	01/08/2018	GARY D ROLLINGS	BURNOR	0389	BNSF	03/03/2018
						CALVIN D ARNOLD	BURNOR		BNSF	03/05/2018
	**	* February	2018 ***			JAMES B LEMPKA	BURL	1316	BNSF	03/06/2018
	DONALD P TIPTON	BURL	1142	BNSF	02/01/2018	TIMOTHY E BELL			BNSF	03/08/2018
	KIRT D DOUSE	BURNOR	1426	BNSF	02/01/2018	JOHN P O GRADY	PENN	3014	NRPC	03/12/2018

BILL WAKEFIELD	USD	1046	UP	03/16/2018
JIM M HIBLER	BURL	0014	BNSF	03/18/2018
EDWARD B MASON	BURL	1320	BNSF	03/31/2018
ROGER J REIMERS	BURL	1320	BNSF	03/31/2018
KIM A OHS	BURNOR	1092	BNSF	03/31/2018
GARY A DIXON	WCSD	2929	WCL	03/31/2018
**	** April 201	8 ***		
DAVID E WARDAS	WCSD	0472	WCL	04/01/2018
DANIEL J WELCH	ΝE	1368	DH	04/05/2018
PORFIRIO OLIVAS	USD	0941	UP	04/10/2018





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# ROLL OF HONOR

LUk	(E D ALBRIGHT	PENN	3006	2008
	BRIEL ALVAREZ	USD	1002	2008
	ET D ARCHIBALD	USD	1227	2008
	ENDAN BAYLOR	N E	0228	200
	OMAS S BELL	ASF	0532	200
	HARD BELTON	AT&SFF	2600	2008
JOH	HN D BERRY	AF-SE	0061	200
BR/	ANDON R BISHOP	AT&SFF	2433	2008
WIL	LIE M BLASH	SOU	8080	200
J09	SEPH E BOGGS	ASF	2434	2008
JES	SS G BORDERS JR	BURNOR	0104	2008
	RISTOPHER D BRADLEY	SOU	0567	2008
	CHAEL R BRADLEY	ASF	0568	2008
	RIS A BRITTHOUER	AT&SFF	2600	2008
	MES A BROOKS			
		AF-SE	0562	2008
	HN H BROWN JR	ICGF	0652	2008
	THEW D BROWNING	USD	1216	2008
	THONY C BUGLIO	CRSF	1259	2008
	CHAEL T BULLICK	PENN	3002	2008
NIC	CHOLAS J BUTLER	USD	1196	2008
GIL	BERTO CAMPUZANO	CRSF	1532	2008
LEC	R CARDILLO	PENN	3063	2008
KEN	NNY M CARPENTER	AF-SE	0424	2008
TOI	DD S CARY	USD	1402	2008
	PHEN D CHAPUT	ΝE	0228	2008
	CHAEL A CHARCALLA	PENN	3084	200
	NRY K CHUKWUDI	SOU	0627	2008
	AN K CLAPACS			
		CRSF	1650	2008
	FREY R CLEVELAND	AF-SE	2388	2008
	STIN R COFFMAN	PENN	3008	2008
	ARLES E COLLINS	AF-SW	1365	2008
CHF	RISTOPHER G CONOVER	BURNOR	1426	2008
MA	TTHEW J COPPER	CRSFNP	1362	2008
PAT	RICK M CROSBY	AT&SFF	0361	2008
AAI	RON DAVIS	ΝE	0228	2008
DEN	NNIE L DAVIS	SOU	0542	2008
	SEPH J DIMARCO	CRSD	2906	200
	RISTOPHER L DOVE	AF-SE	0702	2008
	VID W EAVES	ICGF	0654	200
	NIEL J EVANS	CRSF	1562	2008
	TTHEW P FARRELL	PENN	3063	2008
	VID S FITE	CRSFNP	1363	2008
	YNE A FITTRO	USD	0473	2008
	IRC F FORD	USD	1152	2008
JUS	STIN T FREDERICK	SOU	0636	2008
BIL	LY R FREED	PENN	3008	2008
MIC	CAH C FREELAND	BURNOR	0159	2008
CHA	ARLES FREEMAN	ΝE	0228	2008
RUS	SSELL V GOOLSBY	SOU	0804	2008
DYL	AN S GRANT	AF-SW	1353	2008
	MES L HABENICHT	USD	0941	2008
	LVIN L HARDY	N E	0228	2008
	JL L HARMON	ICGF	0637	2008
	NTON B HARRIS SR	SOU	2003	2008
	RRY R HARTLEY JR	SOU		2008
			0627	
	NNIS HEELEN	N E	0228	2008
	GAR HERNANDEZ	USD	0591	2008
	REL L HITE	USD	0899	2008
DA۱	VID R HOLDREAD	CRSFNP	1363	2008
TIN	NOTHY W HOOD	AF-SW	0450	2008
GRE	EG A HOWARD	ASF	1599	2008
BLA	AKE M HOWELL	SOU	0645	2008
KEN	NNETH HUDSON	PENN	3012	2008
	RIS C HUERTA	USD	0508	2008
	/IN D HUFF	AF-SE	2388	2008
	MAINE M JACK	AF-SW	1012	2008
	AIG S JASINSKI	CRSD	2910	2008
	RIS J JIMENEZ	CRSFNP	1362	2008
	N R JOHNSON	USD	1227	2008
	IG E JOHNSON JR	AT&SFF	2600	2008
	REMIAH J JONES	CRSF	0882	2008
BEL	LINDA S JUSTICE	AT&SFF	2033	2008
JOH	HN M KEMPER	PENN	3061	2008
ROE	BERT L KIBLER II	PENN	0935	2008
BRI	AN T KLICE JR	CRSF	0895	2008
	NARD G KOTERMANSKI	PENN	3023	200
	O NOTEMBRIDIN		3020	2000

THOMAS D LAVER	CRSD	2905	2008
OMAR F LEDEZMA	AF-SW	2286	2008
RONALD J LEGGETT	AT&SFF	1082	2008
RANDALL T LEWIS	CRSD	2905	2008
CHRISTOPHER LONG	AF-SE	0916	2008
TOD M LOVE JUAN A LYMUEL	USD AF-SW	0134 1100	2008 2008
JOSEPH J MANZO	CRSF	1532	2008
AVERY L MARSHALL	AF-SW	1365	2008
SHAWN D MATTOX	USD	1216	2008
LEONARD MC CLAIN	PENN	3012	2008
JACKIE B MC COY	AF-SE	2388	2008
JOEL S MC CRARY	AF-SE	0670	2008
DALE E MC CULLOUGH II	SOU	0585	2008
PAUL E MC DERMOTT SR SEAN P MC DOWELL	CRSF	0704	2008
JOHN A MC GREGOR	ASF SOU	1701 2838	2008 2008
CHAD P MC INTOSH	AT&SFF	0493	2008
CHARLES K MC KAY	USD	0941	2008
JOHN S MC PHERSON	SOU	0537	2008
MATTHEW METTA	CRSD	2906	2008
CODY L MICHAELIS	USD	1196	2008
RICK MOLINAR	AF-SW	1012	2008
LEE R MONTGOMERY	AT&SFF	1600	2008
ROBERT D MORRIS	AF-SE	0562	2008
GREGORY N MULLIS RAYMOND C NADEN	SOU CRSF	0808 1259	2008 2008
ROBERT C NEILSON	USD	1381	2008
DAVID I NORMAN JR	AF-SE	0563	2008
SERGIO A OCHOA	AT&SFF	2402	2008
JEROME P ORBAN	PENN	0400	2008
RORY B OVENS	BURNOR	0104	2008
ZACK D PARKER	BURNOR	0159	2008
ALLEN S PERRITT	AF-SW	0564	2008
JUSTIN R PETERSON TARAKI PILGRIM	ASF PENN	1599 3068	2008 2008
BRANDON E PITTS	AT&SFF	0518	2008
CHRISTOPHER A PROFFITT	AT&SFF	0493	2008
MICHAEL A PROROK	AF-SW	0450	2008
MICHAEL S PURVIS	SOU	0660	2008
JOSE L QUESADA	CRSD	2905	2008
JEREMY T RATLIFF	AF-SE	0670	2008
CRAIG A RENDON	CRSF	0427	2008
KYLE J RITTER LARRY ROBERSON JR	USD AF-SE	0227 2167	2008 2008
QUENTIN D ROBERTS	USD	2933	2008
JOHN D ROBINSON JR	PENN	0400	2008
ROMULO S RODRIGUEZ	USD	0134	2008
MARTIN L SARFINE	PENN	3091	2008
WILLIAM E SCHAFFERT	CRSF	0427	2008
KENNETH SCOTT	N E	0228	2008
BRANDON C SCOTT	PENN	3012	2008
MARK A SERFASS ROBERT SIGGERS	PENN AT&SFF	0935 1600	2008 2008
MICHAEL L SMITH	ASF	0301	2008
BRETT L STEPHENS JR	ASF	1081	2008
DAN R STEWART	BURNOR	1426	2008
STEVE L STRANG	BURNOR	0389	2008
GARY R SUTTER	BURNOR	1763	2008
RANDALL D TENNANT	USD	0922	2008
KEVIN M VALENTINE	CRSF	1532	2008
JAY P VANDERLIP ANTHONY C VILLANOVA	BURNOR CRSD	1426 2906	2008 2008
BRIAN J VOYTEK	CRSF	1234	2008
SCOTT J WANGELIN	CRSF	0427	2008
WILLIAM G WATSON	ASF	0598	2008
KEATON R WESTFALL	AT&SFF	1251	2008
DAVID G WICKERT	USD	0874	2008
JEREMY R WILSON	AF-SE	0670	2008
MICHAEL D WINKLER	USD	1517	2008
MITCHELL T WOOD MARK A WRIGHT	USD SOU	0914	2008
DARTELL L WRIGHT	BURNOR	0808 0389	2008 2008
STEPHEN D WYLAND	SOU	0034	2008
JOHN J YOCUM	AF-SE	1155	2008
JUSTIN J YOUMANS	SOU	0619	2008
JOSHUA T YOUNG	AF-SE	0670	2008

#### **LOCAL LODGES**

AF-SE

ICGF

0670

0657

2008

2008

VASSILY LYASHKO

JOSEPH CLYNN

PENN

AF-SF

3014

2162

1998

1998

JOSHUA T YOUNG

ARTHUR P YOUNG

Please notify the BMWED National Division of the passing of any retired BMWED member.

Call (248) 662-2660, Ext.636.



MERIT	A W A	R D	
ANDRES AGUINIGA	USD	1002	1998
ANTONIO V ANAYA	USD	0686	1998
ROBERT M ANDERSON	AT&SFF	0361	1998
GARY W AUGUSTUS	AT&SFF	2600	1998
EFRAIN AYALA DELBERT P BLAYLOCK	USD USD	0473 0874	1998 1998
RODNEY A BLESSING	BURL	0800	1998
THOMAS BOCCHIMUZZO	AF-SE	2912	1998
PAUL J BORDELEAU	CRSF	0201	1998
FELIX M BORRUEL SCOTT A BRADY	USD PENN	1002 3011	1998 1998
JERRIATE BROOKS	AT&SFF	2410	1998
DAVID J BROWN	ΝE	0090	1998
BRYAN S BROWN	N E	0228	1998
CHAD A BURTCHAELL RICHARD F BUSSEY	AF-SE CRSF	2912 0201	1998 1998
ROBERT C CALLENDER	PENN	3068	1998
TIMOTHY P CAPEHART	AT&SFF	0361	1998
CLIFFORD W CARIGNAN	N E	1718	1998
T D CARPER LLOYD W CARTER	ASF AF-SW	0551 1176	1998 1998
RICHARD J CHAVES	CRSF	0987	1998
SIDNEY E CLARY	USD	0914	1998
JOHN D COOPER	PENN	3041	1998
J S CUNNINGHAM TIMOTHY R DANNAR	ASF USD	0580 1216	1998 1998
C S DEHAVEN	ASF	0551	1998
JOSEPH R DIGIORGIO	PENN	3014	1998
ALEXANDER DIXON JR	PENN	3014	1998
KYLE L DOCK MICHAEL A DOERING	USD PENN	1096 3095	1998 1998
JOSEPH P DONNELLY	PENN	3012	1998
DENNIS M DOSS	ASF	1464	1998
BRADLEY E DOUGLAS	USD	0227	1998
GEORGE M DUARTE WALTER DUKES	USD PENN	0407 3012	1998 1998
STEVEN R DYE	SOU	0636	1998
STEVEN E ECKHARDT	USD	1381	1998
WAYNE R EDWARDS	USD	1246	1998
BRIAN D ELAM JONATHAN ELLIS	BURL AF-SW	0800 1058	1998 1998
DAVID C EVERS	USD	0216	1998
CODY L FOSTER	USD	0899	1998
PAUL D FREEMAN	USD	0325	1998
KEVIN M GILLERY JEFFERY K GOINS	N E ASF	0228 0571	1998 1998
ALFRED K GORICH	N E	0228	1998
DARREN M GRAHAM	USD	1096	1998
GEORGE GRANT JR	AF-SW	1058	1998
JEFFREY B GREVER R M HAGAN	USD ASF	1381 0226	1998 1998
DEREK A HAGUE	USD	0922	1998
ANGELO R HAROLD	PENN	3012	1998
C HAZELWOOD	ASF	0598	1998
LEO J HENAULT III ALBERTO A HERRERA	N E USD	0090 1002	1998 1998
JEFF E HOWELL	USD	1246	1998
RON L INGLIS	BURL	0230	1998
GENO R JAMES JR	AF-SW	1175	1998
STERLING JAMURATH LUKE L JAROSZ	PENN USD	3014 0473	1998 1998
RONALD J JARRETT	PENN	3012	1998
KARL A JAY	AT&SFF	1547	1998
ALAN K JIMINEZ	AF-SW	1254	1998
AARON JOHNSON CHAD A JOHNSON	PENN AT&SFF	3012 0518	1998 1998
RALEIGH D JONES	USD	0227	1998
MICHAEL E JOSEPH	PENN	3068	1998
RICHARD D JOURNET	AT&SFF	2411	1998
EARL KNIGHT CHRISTOPHER M LAATSCH	PENN PENN	3012 3011	1998 1998
SEAN A LANGSTON	PENN	3011	1998
ANTHONY LEPRE	PENN	3011	1998
ANDREW R LETH	USD	0216	1998
DARRELL LEWIS RAFAEL A LIEVANOS	PENN AT&SFF	3068 2418	1998 1998
RANDALL E LOUDON	USD	0473	1998
MARK A LUCKY JR	AF-SW	2286	1998
CHAD L LUX	USD	1216 3014	1998

JOHN MAGALETTA	PENN	3068	1998
BRIAN D MASON	USD	1097	1998
DARIN L MC COY	ASF	1464	1998
MICHAEL P MC FADDEN	PENN	3041	1998
DOUG O MC NEW	USD	1196	1998
DANNY G MC QUEARY	SOU	0636	1998
CASEY MEINTS	USD	0216	1998
CHARLES D MELLO	USD	0922	1998
ALBERT MICHAUD	N E	1718	1998
DUSTIN G MIDDLETON	PENN	3012	1998
TODD J MONTGOMERY MCKIN L MOORE	USD BURL	1196 0800	1998 1998
TYRONE A NELSON	PENN	3012	1998
BARRY E NEWPORT	USD	0686	1998
EDVARDO ORTIZ	USD	1862	1998
J L PACK	ASF	1464	1998
PETER R PAGLIA	CRSF	0201	1998
DAVID G PALU	USD	0473	1998
CHRISTIAN L PATTON	ASF	0551	1998
JAMES T PAULY	USD	0473	1998
MARCUS R PEECHER	ASF	0566	1998
RAPHAEL O PENAHERRERA	PENN	3068	1998
CLINTON C PERRY	USD	1381	1998
B A PLEMMONS	SOU	0525	1998
JASON PRIETO	AT&SFF	2418	1998
MICHAEL J PULIDO	USD	1002	1998
JESUS REYES	USD	0227	1998
BRUCE E RHODES	PENN	3011	1998
FREDERICK J RICE	CRSF	0201	1998
TRAVIS A RIGGS	ASF	0568	1998
ISMAEL RIVERA	PENN	3014	1998
RUSSELL RIVERS	PENN	3012	1998
EDWARD J ROHAN	USD	0473	1998
TIM E RYSER	USD	0686	1998
KENNY R SALMONS JR	ASF	1464	1998
JOHN T SAUNDERS	CRSF	0987	1998
JAMES B SCOTT	USD	1402	1998
KEVIN A SELBY	PENN	3012	1998
JAMES A SHANK	PENN	3011	1998
CHRISTOPHER L SHELTON	SOU	0034	1998
GARY E SHIPLEY	AF-SE	2912	1998
JOSE M SILVA STEVEN C SLATE	CRSF AT&SFF	0201	1998
MICAH B SMITH	N E	2411	1998 1998
KIRT J SMITH	USD	0090 1402	1998
DELL W SNOW	USD	1709	1998
CHAP E SOUTHERN	ASF	0551	1998
JOSEPH R STANTON	CRSF	0987	1998
KENT A STEINER	USD	0686	1998
AUGUSTINE J SUAZO	USD	0686	1998
LESLIE G SWANN	PENN	3041	1998
STEVEN D TWOMBLY	PENN	3041	1998
LEE H VAN TASSEL	USD	1002	1998
ISRAEL VELAZQUEZ	PENN	3068	1998
JAVIER S VILLALPANDO	USD	1227	1998
DANIEL R WADE	ΝE	0090	1998
FREDERICK D WARD	AF-SW	2762	1998
HEATH A WEBB	ASF	1464	1998
MICHAEL R WELSH	AT&SFF	2417	1998
LARRY D WHITE	ASF	0551	1998
DARNELL L WHITE	PENN	3012	1998
JAMES C WILDER	AF-SE	0563	1998
GREGORY J WILLIAMS	AF-SW	1058	1998
HUGH J WILLIAMS JR	PENN	3068	1998
ERIC W WILSON	PENN	3041	1998
RANDY WINSLOW	ΝE	0090	1998
DONOVAN L WOLFE	PENN	3014	1998
DANNY C WOLFORD II	ASF	0571	1998
	<u> </u>		

JOHN MAGALETTA

PENN

3068

1998



E D HELLER DAN A SCHMIDT TOM THOMAS JR SOU ICGF

1988 1618 0626 1988 2102 1980



STANLEY J ALBERS

AF-SE

1978 1162

Continued on Page 15

# DEATH BENEFIT DEPARTMENT

LODGE/SYSTEM/RR

#### REPORT OF DEATH BENEFIT CLAIMS PAID DURING MARCH AND APRIL. 2018

LEONARD RIGGANS	NEW CASTLE, PA	1432	AF/CSXT	02/12/18
JERRY A. WOLCOTT	CHEROKEE, IA	0626	ICGF/RETI	02/27/18
VIRGIL B. SWORD	DUNSMUIR, CA	1196	USD/RETI	03/20/18
THURMAN E. LAWSON	SPOUT SPRING, VA	0572	ASF/RETI	01/20/18
LEON JONES	AURORA, CO	1517	USD/RETI	02/26/18

PAID MARCH 1, 2018 TO MAY 1, 2018	\$	2,500.00
AMOUNT PREVIOUSLY PAID	\$45,5	58,307.75
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID TO DATE	\$45,5	60,807.75
NUMBER OF CLAIMS PAID – 16		

CITY/STATE

REPORT OF DEATH NOTICES RECEIVED DURING MARCH AND APRIL 2018

JOHN M. SHOPINSKI	WALNUT HILL, IL	0788	BURL/BNSF	03/14/18
ANDREW J. STANGLAND	SUPERIOR, WI	1108	BURL/BNSF	03/12/18
TATE D. SATTERFIELD	TEHACHAPI, CA	1096	USD/UP	03/12/18
WILLIAM D. MILLER	BINGHAMTON, NY	1632	NE/NS	02/27/18

### **QR** Code

**NAME** 

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#### Merit Awards, from Page 14

D.O.D.

A R ALBRITTON	SOU	0546	1978
DON A ANDERSON	AT&SFF	1547	1978
DAVID ARCHULETA	USD	0968	1978
ARNOLD J BANDS	PENN	3005	1978
ED E BLACKBURN	AT&SFF	2433	1978
MICHAEL BURNS	NE	0090	1978
BRIAN S BURNS	AF-SE	1854	1978
ROGER D DAVIDSON	SOU	0804	1978
TERRY W DE MOSS	AF-SW	0345	1978
ROGER D EATON	SOU	0567	1978
BRUCE L HACKBARTH	USD	0437	1978
ROBERT W HALLADAY	USD	0381	1978
SPENCER N HARDY	AF-SE	0695	1978
TONY M JAMES	AF-SE	2163	1978
DERYL T MAULDEN	SOU	0627	1978
ALVIN MELTON	AF-SE	1857	1978
OBEY L NELSON	AT&SFF	2410	1978
TERRY L NICELY	AF-SE	0075	1978
STEVEN W O BRIEN	PENN	3098	1978
JOSHUA H OLVERA	USD	1096	1978
TIMOTHY W PATOCKA	AT&SFF	0361	1978
WILLARD RICE	SOU	0636	1978
MICHAEL W ROBINSON	ICGF	1171	1978
LEROY SANFORD	BURNOR	0309	1978
RICHARD N SCHNEIDER	PENN	3014	1978
GARY J SCOTT	BURL	0788	1978
PATRICK H SENF	AT&SFF	2417	1978
MARTIN L SHIRK	CRSF	0166	1978
JEFFREY L SMITH	SOU	0567	1978
ROBERT B STARR	PENN	3075	1978
RONNIE STEVENS	AF-SE	2163	1978
JOHN M SWARTZ	AF-SE	1035	1978
RAFAEL S TORRES	USD	0134	1978
VINCENT L WARREN	USD	0918	1978
DALLAS K WHITE JR	PENN	3095	1978
DARRELL D WICK	WCSD	1710	1978



DALE ERMEY	ICGF	1393	1968
DONALD L REITZ	USD	0692	1968
ROBERT E SANDERS JR	USD	1097	1968



# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

# We all must stand committed to workplace safety

On April 24, 20-year-old BMWED Brother Luke Gsell was fatally struck by an Amtrak train while performing gang watchman duties. He was a proud member of Pennsylvania Federation Local Lodge 3012 for eight

Brother Luke, best known on the railroad by his nickname "Sledge," was by all accounts a go-getter with a desire to learn. In his short time of the railroad, Sledge had built a reputation as a hard-worker, a quick learner, and was universally well-liked by his Brothers and Sisters on Amtrak. He will be greatly missed.

While it is still too early to accurately determine the cause of this senseless and tragic accident, Penn Fed officers and BMWED Director of Safety Roy Morrison are in close contact with Amtrak, the NTSB and the FRA and we will continue to monitor the investigation.

It is no secret that the railroad is a dangerous occupation. The BMWED remains committed to making it a safer place and we work every day to ensure that injuries and deaths, like that of Brother Gsell, never happen again.

These efforts have been painstaking at times, the work relentless, but there is no question that labor's presence in the halls of Congress has saved worker lives. Yet, as the terrible news from April 24 indicates, we still have much more work to come.

Tides shift in Washington. Currently, the tide of deruglation is the trend du jour. It seems that many lawmakers view federal regulation as a complete impediment to corporations and their ability to make money.

However, many federal regulations are – sadly – written in blood. It

Continued on Page 16

#### President's Perspective, From Page 15

could be argued that practically every rule, code and law enacted by either the railroad itself, or by the federal government, that pertains to worker and public safety was passed or implemented because the job or task at hand was too dangerous and/or reckless. Most of these regulations slowed down railroad operations, in turn costing the company productivity. In many cases, it took the passing of legislation to ensure that the railroads would protect the safety of their employees and the general public over that of their profits.

Brother Luke is our latest tragedy. His untimely passing was announced during a BMWED Local Lodge Officer training in Nashville that very morning. As the room of over 100 BMWED members learned of his death, a pall cast over the crowd. We all understood the tragedy. It was our young brother that morning. It could be any one of us next. We all grieved.

Brothers and sisters, I ask that you remember Brother Luke and all the fallen BMWED and rail employees that have sadly come before him. Look out for each other, take care of each other, and stand up for each other when work conditions feel unsafe and out-of-place. The BMWED and its officers will stand with you. We must ensure that each and every one us stay safe at work.

### **Obituary: Brother Luke J. Gsell**

On the morning of April 24, at around 9 a.m., BMWED Pennsylvania Federation Local Lodge 3012 Brother Luke Gsell was fatally struck by Amtrak Train 86 at the Bowie, Md. Station while performing gang watchman duties. Brother Gsell was 20 years old. He began membership with our Brotherhood in October of last year.

Eight months is not a long time on the railroad, but Brother Luke had already made an impression on his fellow Brothers and Sisters on Amtrak. His reputation was growing as a committed, ambitious, hard-worker, who leaped at opportunities to learn something new and showed great aptitude and drive. His loss is a heavy burden to all of us today.

Officials with the BMWED's Penn Fed, along with our Director of Safety, are working with Amtrak and the NTSB to determine the cause of this accident. But our deepest concerns are with Brother Luke's family and friends. We ask that you keep them in your thoughts.

Brother Luke was a 2016 graduate of Garnet Valley (Penn.) High School. He is survived by his parents, Ernest and Jacquelyn Winters Gsell, siblings, Natalie, Ernest Jr., Gabrielle and Victoria Gsell, paternal grandparents, Craig and Janet Gsell, maternal grandmother, Sharon Winters, maternal great grandfather, William Winters, and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

As always, please be careful and look after one another out there. The railroad can be a dangerous place to work and we — as Brothers and Sisters — can be our safest line of defense. Let's be our Brother's Keeper.



Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes Division 41475 Gardenbrook Road Novi, MI 48375-1328

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