Honoring a Beloved Friend and Brother

J. McMillen

New BMWED Officers System/Division/Federation elected in 2018

The BMWED Journal showcases new look Newsletter turns magazine publication in Spring of 2019

New BMWED Officers System/Division/Federation elected in 2018

Honoring a Beloved Friend and Brother J. McMillen
Affiliated System Division officers were all re-elected by acclamation in 2018. They are as follows:

**General Chairman:** Jack E. David  
**First Vice Chairman:** Johnny Long  
**Second Vice Chairman:** Justin Blankenship

“I’ve worked and known Jack David for over 30 years and he has always, every time, been a stand-up guy,” ASF Delegate Kip Harris said. “He’s out there with us in the field, he’s at hundreds of union meetings, he stands up for us against the railroad and he doesn’t back down. And Johnny and Justin, under Jack’s leadership, have done a wonderful job. They’ve turned the direction of this federation around.”

In addition, the ASF elected its Joint Protective Board and Executive Boards. Amongst the newly elected officers was Sam Peterman, who represented a newly-formed lodge, ASF Local Lodge 2434.

The newest officers of the Wisconsin Central System Division were elected by direct ballot, with 58.5 percent participation. They are as follows:

**General Chairman:** Joe Letizia  
**Vice Chair/Secretary-Treasurer:** Frederick H. Bandt  
**Vice Chair-North:** Bradley Wardas

“I have been honored to serve as your General Chairman for these past four years and I look forward to working with all of you in our shared fight to hang on to what we have and secure the things we do not.” General Chairman Letizia said.
The newest Unified System Division officers are as follows:

- **General Chairman** – Tony Cardwell
- **First Vice Chairman/Secretary Treasurer** – Galen Owen
- **Assistant General Chairman** – Brian Rumler
- **Vice Chairman at Large** – Joe Nantista
- **Region 1 Eastern District Vice Chairman** – Andrew Murphy
- **Region 1 Western District Vice Chairman** – Mike Hallgren
- **Region 2 District 1 Vice Chairman** – Renne Perez
- **Region 2 District 2 Vice Chairman** – Zach Anderson
- **Region 3 District 1 Vice Chairman** – Adam Allen
- **Region 3 District 2 Vice Chairman** – Mitch McCarthy
- **Executive Board Chairman** - Richard Creek
- **Executive Board Secretary Treasurer** - Glenn Royer
- **Executive Board Region 1** - Duane Madrid
- **Executive Board Region 1** - Joseph Kimball
- **Executive Board Region 2** - Roberto Carreon
- **Executive Board Region 2** - Mike Schmidt
- **Executive Board Region 2** - Dan Doddema
- **Executive Board Region 3** - Rene Cruz
- **Executive Board Region 3** - Bucky Miller

Brother Tony Cardwell was re-elected as General Chairman by acclamation. Vice Chairman Renne Perez nominated Brother Cardwell remarking, “Tony is a great leader; he is a man of honesty, integrity, and loyalty. Tony’s passion and care for his Union Brothers and Sisters is noticed by his members and peers. If you’re looking for a person who is dedicated, committed, energetic, someone who goes above and beyond, and will never back down, then Tony Cardwell is the leader we want and need.” Brother Cardwell was honored to accept the nomination. After being elected, Brother Cardwell Nominated Brother Galen Owen for Secretary-Treasurer. Brother Owen would also go on to be elected by acclamation.

Congratulations!
BMWED Allied Federation Meet
Members of BMWED Allied Federation Local Lodge 0466 out of Garrett, Ind. (Dennis Jeffers Jr., Local Pres.) with BMWED President Simpson.
Brother James Hooper, who served as Local Sec.-Treas. for nearly 20 years, is presented a plaque by Local Pres. A.J. Bastedo. The plaque was made by fellow Lodge Brother Ted Stewart.
Sister Staci Moody-Gilbert, General Chairwoman of the Burlington System Division, received the Outstanding Teamster Leadership award at BMWED Committee on Diversity this year’s Gulf Coast Chapter Teamster National Black Caucus Scholarship Awards Banquet on March 16, 2019 in Tampa.

BMWED Burlington System Division

BMWED Burlington Northern System Federation
Local Lodge 320 in Duluth, Minn. Back Row: Mark McDonald, Dave Shaw, Rich Hailey, Jeremy Paulson, Robert Welsch, John Mozinski, Josh Merrier
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. Railroademployers do not always provide this information to the BMWED.

Phone numbers can be found at BMWE.org.
Don Griffin Retires After Decades of Devoted Service

Brother Donald F. Griffin, BMWED Director of Strategic Coordination and Research, has retired after a long and distinguished career with our Brotherhood.

Brother Don was very often the centerpiece of National Bargaining, spearheading strategy and planning, while assisting all systems and federations with local handling and various special projects. The job is the integral to the success of any Union, and the BMWED is no exception. Brother Don handled this role with aplomb – a steady hand, a sharp mind, a ferocious will to succeed, and, most notably, an unwavering dedication to his fellow brothers and sisters.

The list of Brother Griffin’s accomplishments is lengthy. If you are a working railroader on any Organized property in the United States (and some in Canada), you have reaped benefits from the diligent, shrewd and consistent work of Don. Brother Griffin has helped negotiate CBAs on all the major Class 1s, the major American passenger roads, and countless other smaller Class 2 and 3 lines.

In addition to serving as the chief spokesperson in most bargaining rounds, Brother Griffin headed up strategy and research for the Brotherhood. Don helped draft Section 6 notices to initiate bargaining, formulated bargaining proposals, provided economic analysis of both our Union and the Carriers, and generally devised bargaining strategy. He also helped in arbitration and CBA matters, as well as legislatively by drafting proposals on legislation and lobbying on the Hill in Washington, D.C.

Don Griffin is the epitome of a true Union brother, who wears his passion for the working men and women of this world on his sleeve,” President Simpson said. “There have been few people in this Brotherhood who have done more for our members than Brother Griffin. He was a tireless and tremendous force at the bargaining table and his value to our Union was immeasurable. I wish him the happiest of retirements and he knows that I speak for everyone in the BMWED when I say he will be truly missed.”
Are you a BMWED-IBT Member interested in volunteering for Habitat for Humanity?

We are currently looking for 15-20 volunteers for this summer’s project!

Location: Grand Island, Nebraska
When: June 1, 2019

Please contact Burlington System Division General Chairwoman, Staci Moody-Gilbert at 402-964-8488 or by email at staci@bmwebad.org for more information.
My term as Secretary-Treasurer was effective September 1st and it has been very busy since day one. Everyone has been extremely helpful in making the change go smoothly. Any change has a certain degree of difficulty, but in my case, I have greatly enjoyed it and the staff and fellow officers have all made the transition for me very easy.

I started my railroad career on the Burlington Northern Railroad in May 1974, in what I thought was going to be a summer job to earn some money before eventually returning to school. Obviously, that did not happen. I was blessed because my Local Lodge 1214 had great Local Lodge Officers and I was able to learn from them while beginning my railroad career. When my Local Chairman vacated the position to become General Chairman of the Burlington System Division in 1984, I was elected as Local Chairman to fill his vacancy.

I held the position of Local Chairman for two (2) years, at which time I was elected to the full-time position of Vice General Chairman of the Burlington System Division. I held this position or the position of Vice General Chairman Secretary-Treasurer for the next eight (8) years. In 1994, I was elected to the position of General Chairman of the Burlington System Division, which I worked for the next fourteen (14) years.

In 2002 I was elected to the National Division Executive Board and continued to serve on the Executive Board until 2008, when I was elected to the position of Vice President of the Northwest Region. I continued to serve as Vice President of the Northwest Region until 2014, when I was elected to the position of Vice President At-Large. I served as Vice President At-Large until I was elected to the position of National Division Secretary-Treasurer at the June 2018 BMWED Convention.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16
A great example of stories we covet is one that appears in this issue of the BMWED Journal. Our Brothers with the ATSFF Local Lodge 2404 and their sincere love and admiration for their Brother and friend, Jim McMillen, who recently passed after a battle with cancer. It is a sad story – no doubt – but it is one that touches greatly on our fellowship and Brotherhood. It is a story of Brothers coming together to look out for his family once their friend can no longer do so. I admire those men and I encourage you to read it.

So, if you know anyone at your local deserving of extra-recognition, contact us. Community involvement, charity work, a story of a good deed – these are stories that reflect the character of our Union. Lord knows there are people and organizations that seek to unfairly denigrate us, so we should put our best foot forward and combat this unjust criticism with a true reflection of what Unionism and the BMWED are all about.

An easy way to inform us of stories, or to just drop us a line, share Brothered photos, and reach out for
additional information, is to email contactus@bmwe.org. Of course, our Directory is also available online, and any number of contacts are available there.

You hopefully noticed that in the last four years, our Brotherhood has expanded its reach. This updated design of the Journal is but one way we have targeted an increase in BMWED communication. In addition to the printed Journal, we have grown our social media – utilizing Facebook, twitter and InstaGram as our primary online social platforms. Our BMWED Facebook page has grown to more than 11,000 followers and we have cultivated a strong presence on the other two social media platforms.

During the last National Bargaining round, our YouTube page was instrumental in keeping members informed, and we will be utilizing that tool in the months and years to come. Which brings me to another topic of importance…

I hope you have completed our 2020 Freight Railroad Bargaining survey distributed recently by Front Line Communicators of the BMWED Communication Action Team (C.A.T). Because of our CAT program, we have a much greater number of rank-in-file members informed and participating in this upcoming round.

If you haven’t yet, please fill out the current survey and return it to your FLC or Internal Organizer. We want to hear from you. As always, the upcoming round will present challenges and it is imperative that we join all ideas and strategies in a unified front against the carriers and their constant demands. The survey helps your officers develop tactics and gauge the mindset of the membership. It is an important tool and we hope to hear from each and every BMWED freight railroader, so please complete and return yours today!

-Freddie N. Simpson

The upcoming National Bargaining round.

Please let us know if you haven’t seen a survey, contact Organizing Director Carey Dall at 510-846-5368 or cdall@bmwe.org and he will help you right away.

Thank You
The state of affairs in this country could currently be described as one of deep cynicism, encased in a fractured, gerrymandered, dark money-fueled, and criminally-conspired dystopian government, with the structural integrity of a crumbling eggshell, or more aptly put, a disintegrating ozone layer.

But, hey, at least we have a for-profit healthcare system – am I right?

That’s a joke (obviously), but it’s not actually funny. The fact of the matter – however sad and pitiful it is – is that your health and medical care as an American citizen relies entirely on someone far, far richer than you. And it’s not necessarily your doctor.

It’s your corporation’s CEO and the board of directors. And here’s a not-so-well-kept secret – they don’t really want to spend the money needed to keep you alive.

There is no escaping this reality – at least not in our current system. If someone far wealthier than you isn’t forced to cover the bulk of your medical bills through contributions to your health insurance, than you will suffer and possibly die. Counter action, through organized labor and collective bargaining, used to be the antidote to this greed. But, as unions have systematically been deconstructed, that pressure on corporations to come off insane profits for the betterment and insurance of its workers’ health is increasingly weakened and almost extinct.

If this sounds dire – well, it is. This system is unsustainable. Greed, as it has much of American life, has rendered our healthcare ineffectual. For the majority of Americans, medical decisions and care are weighted against their ability to pay for them. And that price tag is increasingly far out of reach. The decision to go to the doctor and save their child’s life has a price tag – and it’s one that many cannot pay. And the reason for this is not due to doctor salaries or scientific medical research. The reason is two-fold, but birthed from the same greed-soaked reality. Health insurance companies want to use sickness and medical care to milk gigantic profits from an endless, yet morbid, well, and, other American companies do not wish to come off their record profits to end this charade and universally fund the citizenry’s health.

Look, you and I, and the hundreds of millions of other American citizens who weren’t fortunate enough to be born with silver spoons up our behinds, simply cannot afford hospitalization due to cancer, or stroke, or heart attack. The long-term care that requires would financially ruin us. So, we are dependent on insurance. Insurance that currently is not designed so much to nurse us back to health, but more-so to wring all available profitability from the process into some rich guy’s Swiss bank account.

And, because greed is a deadly sin, it knows no bounds. So, the for-profit health insurance companies have increased the costs of their coverage outside of reasonable bounds, and we now face a tipping point. The current for-profit system is a house of cards that is about to crumble.

Health insurance companies want to use sickness and medical care to milk gigantic profits...

It is estimated that it would cost $1.5 trillion annually to fund a Medicare for All system in the United States. To pay for it there would be three primary streams.

The first would be a “Robin Hood” tax. It would be a financial transaction tax. Every trade on Wall Street would be taxed at an infinitesimal rate. Considering that there are trillions of speculative trades being made yearly by computers day-trading, this would fund $500 billion annually.

The second is to fairly tax the top 1 to 5 percent of earners in this country. Close loop holes and make the Warren Buffets of the country return to the tax rate they were paying when Ronald Reagan was president. Trickle down economics does not work and the richest
# DEATH BENEFIT DEPARTMENT

## REPORT OF DEATH BENEFIT CLAIMS PAID DURING JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2018

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<td>JAMES L. D'ANNIBALLE</td>
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PAID JULY 1, 2018 TO DECEMBER 1, 2018..............................$5,000.00
AMOUNT PREVIOUSLY PAID.............................................................................................................$45,565,307.75
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID TO DATE.............................................................................................................$45,570,307.75
NUMBER OF CLAIMS PAID -10

## REPORT OF DEATH NOTICES RECEIVED DURING JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2018

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<td>TYLER STEAD</td>
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<td>JOELLEN A. BENAVIDEZ</td>
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<td>BURL/BNSF</td>
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<td>ELLIS L. PERSON</td>
<td>TRACY, CA</td>
<td>0407</td>
<td>USD/TASI</td>
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<td>BRUNO LICHTANSKI</td>
<td>COON RAPIDS, MN</td>
<td>0144</td>
<td>BURNOR/BNSF</td>
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<td>BOBBY J. TITTLE</td>
<td>ERWIN, TN</td>
<td>0558</td>
<td>ASF/CSXT</td>
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<td>BRADLEY A. SANBORN</td>
<td>BLK RIVER FL</td>
<td>1965</td>
<td>BURL/SOO</td>
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<td>MICHAEL J. MC DONALD</td>
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<td>GEORGE N. BELL</td>
<td>WEST DEPTFORD, NJ</td>
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During my time working for Burlington Northern, I worked on Steel Gangs, Tie Gangs, Surfacing Gangs, Maintenance Gangs, Undercutter Crews, and Sections; as a Laborer, Machine Operator, Assistant Foreman and Foreman. At the time I became a full-time Vice General Chairman I was working as a Track Inspector.

So, my twenty-two (22) years as a System Officer and sixteen (16) years as a National Division Officer (includes my time on Executive Board) has provided me with the background to know and understand all aspects of the Brotherhood and certainly makes it easier to transition to the position of National Division Secretary-Treasurer.

What has also eased the transition to my new position is that I have inherited an experienced staff that does a great job of serving the members, System and National Division Officers, and staff. We maintain three (3) divisions within the S-T Department; Financial Services, Membership Services, and Government Reporting Services. We have all seen the railroad supervisors or managers, who -- when they first are assigned to a position or a new territory -- feel they need to make radical changes, just for the sake of saying they changed something. My view is if the S-T Department is working well and providing the services required, I am not going to make changes just for the sake of making changes. Having said this, I have told the S-T Staff that if there are areas where they see we can make improvements we want to do that. The same is true for anyone that has a suggestion for improving the S-T Department: I want to hear it and give it serious consideration.
In addition, one very important responsibility I have is ensuring our investments are managed properly. Our money must be invested in areas where it is as safe as possible, while still providing a reasonable return on our investments. The money managers we use are very dedicated to doing just that and are constantly in touch with me, making suggestions and explaining the reasons for their recommendations. You can rest assured that our investments are being watched very closely and managed diligently and ethically by my office and our money managers.

Having said all of this, we do need to bring our spending in line with our income. President Simpson and I have already begun working on this issue and through retirements and an employee going on sick leave/disability we have reduced the Novi staff by three (3) positions since June. We were able to do this account the remaining staff has stepped up and told us they could take on the work of those who left and without there being any drop-off in services provided. In addition, in the S-T Department we recognize the need to always be aware of technological advances we can utilize to improve our services and we are always looking at ways to improve.

We know that unions in general are under attack daily from the anti-union forces in this country, and the BMWED is not exempt from these attacks. We need to be vigilant in our fight to protect the rights of workers and labor organizations during this time when the government and the extremely rich and powerful big business owners are working hand-in-hand to try to eliminate unions. To fight these forces takes money, but it also requires wise decisions and educating all workers on the value of being organized and being represented by a union. We will always make sure this fight is properly funded and we understand the need to streamline our operations to be as efficient as possible and making sure every dues dollar is spent wisely. We cannot outspend these groups, but we can outwork them and outvote them with our numbers. If our members are truly informed about how the benefits we enjoy today were obtained and that all were fought for and gained by the unions now and in the past, I believe our members will make informed votes during elections going forward.

I will close by saying I am truly honored to serve as the National Division Secretary-Treasurer. The BMWED has been very good to me and my family over the years and my one goal is to make this Brotherhood the best it can be when I leave. I want to make sure the BMWED is stable and providing the services the membership wants and deserves. This is why I invite your suggestions as to how we can improve the services provided by the S-T Department.

The same is true for anyone that has a suggestion for improving the S-T Department: I want to hear it and give it serious consideration.

If you have a suggestion you can send me a letter to my office in Novi or leave me a voicemail at (248) 662-2603.

-David D. Joynt
Brother Jim McMillen passed away March 6 after a tough battle with stomach cancer. We will miss our friend, co-worker, husband, father, and Brother.

Jim was a longtime member of BMWED ATSFF Lodge 2404 out of Topeka, Kansas and a great friend to all. Always a jokester, Jim was universally loved for his quick wit and joyful sense of humor.

When Brother Jim learned of his cancer diagnosis, the doctor told him the ensuing chemotherapy may cause hair loss. Jim was not so worried about the hair on his head, but inquired about his mustache. The doc said that his ‘stache should be fine. “Good, that’s the only way to tell me and my sister apart,” he said.

Brother Jim and his wife Pam have a son, Jason, who was born with cerebral palsy and has been wheelchair-bound for his entire life. Jim had planned to repair Jason’s ramp to the house, but illness fell him and the project remained unfinished. Brothers from Lodge 2404 completed the project for him last week, chipping in with materials and a recycled ramp.

We join all Brotherhood members everywhere in giving and most sincere and deepest condolences to Brother Jim’s family and friends.

*We will all miss your laughter and generous spirit.*
Those thoughtful and caring brothers included:

Mike Milburn  Ron Westgate
Robert Bates  Steve Hopkins
Alan Carlson  Joe Kreipe
Ron Reiter  Larry Sheppard
Ed Rice  Bill Coursen
Mark Seastrum  Dave Gish
Danny Brown

“...The doc said that his ‘stache should be fine. “Good, that’s the only way to tell me and my sister apart.”...”
A Reminder of Holiday Events

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.

EVENTS

See What’s Coming Up For BMWED

- **May 15:** deadline to submit applications to your General Chairperson for the Two-Day Local Lodge Officer Training in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

- **June 18-20:** Two-day Local Lodge Officer Training; Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

- **Aug. 6-8:** Penn Fed Convention; Atlantic City, New Jersey.
AROUND THE BROTHERHOOD

Three Longtime BMWED Penn Fed 2006 Brothers Retired Last Year

Left to Right: Brothers Joseph R. Franks, 36 years with Monongahela Railway, Conrail and Norfolk Southern; Larry J. Collins, 37 years with Chessie System, CSX, Monongahela Railway and N.S.; and David W. Williams, 41 years with Chessie, CSX, Monongahela Railway, Conrail and N.S.

Congrats, Brothers. We all wish you long and happy retirements!
Brother Howard Wayne Jones, 65, of Roundhill passed away at The Medical Center in Bowling Green recently. Brother Howard was a beloved by all his friends at Allied Fed Local Lodge 2388.

The Jefferson County native was a welder for L & N and CSX Railroads and a member of Pine Knob Baptist Church in Caneyville. He was the son of the late Howard Jones and Margaret Ann Denkhoff Jones.

“Brother Howard was a great person, a true friend, and a good Union man,” BMWED President Freddie Simpson said. “He always had an annual picnic at his home that everyone was invited to. He will be tremendously missed.”

Surviving are his wife, Deborah Davis Jones; three sons, Hardie Jones (Amanda) of Roundhill, Terry Jones (Rebecca) of Brownsville and Jimbo Jones (Shannon) of Morgantown; three daughters, Jenny Chavez of Smiths Grove, Lelia Jones (Bobby) of Brownsville and Laura Jones (Dave) of Bowling Green; 16 grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.
Notice
The 2019 Legislative Convention election instructions and credential forms to all Lodge Secretary-Treasurers (Presidents if an ST is not available) have been mailed.

Local Lodge Legislative Representatives and Vice Legislative Representatives

The roles of a Local’s Legislative Representative (LR) and a Vice Legislative Representative (VLR) are vital to your union. Now more than ever, we need committed and dedicated members that will continue BMWED’s plight, as we face tougher employer opposition and anti-worker laws, such as Right-to-Work, with broader economic challenges. Election to these positions demand careful thought and strategic consideration.

As BMWED members, please review the following information carefully and consider if you or someone you know is the right person for these positions within your union. These positions give you, the member, an opportunity to play a part advocating for your union and for your fellow brothers and sisters at the State and (occasionally) the Federal level. This is your opportunity -- consider taking action when your local’s election time comes around.

Why is having a Legislative Representative Important?

Any member, from rank-and-file to officer, has a voice which affects an immediate and positive change at the Local, County, State and Federal levels of our government. As a lobbyist, you are effective because, when our State Legislative Directors (SLD), LRs, or VLRs have an opportunity to speak to an elected official on an issue, his/her words carry a realistic, honest, and heartfelt view of your lives on the railroad. This genuineness is borne from hard-learned personal experiences that can only come from earning a living as a railroad worker.

How does it all work?

Article XII, Section 3 of the National Division Bylaws governing State Legislative Boards and legislative activities requires that each Local Lodge elect by secret ballot, at a Regular or Special Meeting held between January 1 and June 30 in the year following a National Division Convention, a LR and a VLR, who will serve as a member on the Legislative Board in each respective state to represent the lodge in legislative matters. The VLR is elected to take the place of the LR if he/she is unable to carry out their respective duties.

Some BMWED lodges have members in more than one state. These local lodges must elect an LR and VLR to represent for each state. Having more than one LR and
VLR for a local actually works to our benefit, as the more LRs and VLRs we have only makes our voice louder and stronger in our fights; thus, making your union stronger.

Local lodge STs (or Presidents) must give a 15-day advance written notice to the members of each lodge advising them of the time, date, and place of election. If you, as an individual member, are not sure if a notice was sent to you, please check with your Local Lodge Secretary Treasurer or President for your local’s election information.

LRs and VLRs are elected to serve a four-year (4) term which will take effect January 1, 2020. The LR from each Local (or the VLR, if the LR cannot attend), is called upon by the incumbent State Legislative Director to attend the State Legislative Board meeting/convention, where the election of a State Legislative Director and an Assistant State Legislative Director will take place.

What are the Requirements?

Any member in good standing (meaning, all dues paid in full for 24 consecutive months) and a legal resident and registered/qualified voter of the state from which elected to serve is eligible to be nominated and elected to the office of LR and/or VLR.

Members with a strong interest in politics, and who want to make a difference for the BMWED, are encouraged to run for the office of Local Legislative Representative (LR) and Vice Local Legislative Representative (VLR).

The Director of Government Affairs desires to have a representative from each Local to be able to increase and strengthen the education and participation of all BMWED members and their families in the political and legislative process.

For more information, contact your current State Legislative Director or the office of the Director of Government Affairs in Washington, D.C.
The telephone number is (202) 508-6448.

Affordable Healthcare

CONTINUED FROM ON PAGE 14

of us are not currently paying their fair share. Changing that would raise another $500 billion.

The third would be a 10 percent payroll tax for universal health insurance coverage. Eight percent of this would be paid by your employer. The other two by you. Now, this is the part where opponents will crow that their taxes would go up. And, yes, they would. But you already pay a health insurance “tax.” It is your monthly health insurance contribution.

Currently, most of us under the National BMWED plan, pay $228 a month in a contribution to our health insurance. The railroads, on average, pay about $1,683. That — on both accounts — is a lot of money. Most of it is attributed to “middle man” healthcare insurance company costs. There’s really no need for this.

A 10 percent payroll tax, with 8 percent covered by the railroad and 2 percent coming out of your paycheck would account for $97.69 a month for the average railroader. This figure comes from the average straight time rate of $28.18 an hour or $58,614 straight time annual salary.

There are two ways to look at health insurance in the country. One way is to look for a solution, so that some sick people and children aren’t forced into bankruptcy or death because they can’t afford care. Another is to stick with the status quo. The health insurance companies are not going to fix this mess. They are neck deep in a never-ending pool of money and they’ve made their peace with it. It is up to us as a society to demand the change we need.
BMWED Secretary-Treasurer Perry K. Geller Sr. retired last year, culminating a 42-year railroad and Brotherhood career.

Brother Geller hired with the Penn Central RR as a trackman in February 1976 and progressed up the roster on several different positions. In 1977, he was elected Local Chairman of Lodge 1657 in Cleveland, and served in that capacity while working on the railroad.

In 1982, Geller was elected as a full-time CRSF Assistant General Chairman, eventually running and getting elected to Second Vice General in 1990 and First Vice in 1991.

In 1994, Brother Geller was elected to the first of three terms as CRSF General Chairman, where he led the System Fed through several bargaining rounds and worked closely with BMWED officers in the Northeast. While GC, Geller also served as the Northeast Region Executive Board Member for the BMWED.

In 2006, Brother Geller was elected to National Division Secretary-Treasurer, where he served until retirement. In addition to his duties as ND S-T, Geller also served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Teamster Rail Conference.

In retirement, Brother Geller plans to spend time with family, wife Debra, children Perry Jr. (a Vice Chair with the CRSF) and Candace, and his two grandchildren, Nicole (16) and Brady (9). He also enjoys sports (softball and golf) and outdoor activities.

We all thank Brother Geller for his service to our Union and wish him a long, happy and healthy retirement.
Mandatory Electronic Filing of DOL Report Forms
LM-3 and LM-4 REMINDER

The U.S. Department of Labor has made Electronic Filing of Forms LM3 and LM-4, Labor Organization Annual Reports, MANDATORY beginning April 1, 2018. As of that date, the Department of Labor will no longer accept paper reports. All LM reports filed by local lodges will also need to be signed electronically by the Lodge Secretary-Treasurer and President. If one or both of those positions in the lodge are vacant, another lodge officer(s) will need to sign the report electronically. To sign a report electronically, you must first obtain a Username and Password on the Department of Labor website. The Username and Password that you obtain will not expire and will remain in effect as long as you are a lodge officer.

At this time, we are requesting that all Lodge Secretary / Treasurers and Presidents go to the Department of Labor website and obtain their Username and Password if they have not done so already. Go to www.olms.dol.gov. Click on “Electronic Forms System (EFS)” in the “OLMS Highlights” section and proceed to “Access the OLMS EFS”. Click on “Register for an EFS User ID and Password” and follow the instructions.

Do not obtain a Union Pin at this time. Be sure to keep your Usernames and Passwords in a safe place so that they are available when it is time to sign the LM report. If you wish to provide your Username and Password to National Division Headquarters, we will keep them on file in case they are lost or misplaced. A copy of the form shown below will be provided by regular mail to all lodge Secretary-Treasurers in early April.

Simply fill in the blanks and forward the form to National Division either by regular mail, fax: (248) 662-2659 or email: cwalker@bmwe.org. You can obtain a copy of this form by calling National Division Headquarters at (248) 662-2625 or cwalker@bmwe.org. If you should need any assistance in obtaining your Username and Password, please don’t hesitate to contact National Division Auditor Joe Corley at (248) 662-2611 or Audit Clerk Candy Walker at (248) 662-2625.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lodge Secretary</th>
<th>Lodge President</th>
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<tr>
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# RETIREMENT CHANGES DURING 10/01/2018 TO 11/30/2018

## *** OCTOBER 2017 ***
- JOSEPH A ENRICO CRSF 1806 GTW 10/03/2017
- RICHARD C RYDER CRSF 0201 KEOL 01/01/2018
- RUVEN ARMENDARIZ USD 1096 UP 01/31/2018

## *** FEBRUARY 2018 ***
- J A HOPSON SOU 2838 NS 02/01/2018

## *** MARCH 2018 ***
- GREGORY P STOUDER CRSF 1363 NS 03/22/2018

## *** APRIL 2018 ***
- RICHARD N SCHNEIDER PENN 3014 NRPC 04/02/2018

## *** MAY 2018 ***
- DANIEL T LA CARBONARA CRSF 0201 KEOL 05/30/2018
- NORMAN E LONG JR CRSF 0201 KEOL 05/30/2018
- BRIAN E SULLIVAN CRSF 0201 KEOL 05/30/2018

## *** JUNE 2018 ***
- ANTHONY L MENDENHALL CRSF 1363 NS 06/09/2018
- MANUEL H LOPEZ AF 0409 CSXT 06/28/2018
- ROBERTO SEGURA PENN 3086 NRPC 06/29/2018
- HENRY J QUINN N E 0228 NRPC 06/30/2018

## *** JULY 2018 ***
- RICHARD C RYDER CRSF 0201 KEOL 07/01/2018
- MICHAEL S BROWN CRSF 2820 ST 07/27/2018

## *** AUGUST 2018 ***
- DAVID A KENNEDY AT&SFF 2413 BNSF 08/01/2018
- ROBERT J KING PENN 3097 NS 08/02/2018
- WAYNE D HUFFMAN USD 0325 UP 08/03/2018
- B L JOHNSON SOU 0660 NS 08/31/2018
- RUVEN ARMENDARIZ USD 1096 UP 08/31/2018

## *** SEPTEMBER 2018 ***
- TIMOTHY A LILES ASF 0580 NS 09/01/2018
- ROYLEE A BECK BURNOR 0320 BNSF 09/01/2018
- RAYMOND J WIEGE BURNOR 0306 BNSF 09/01/2018
- PERRY K GELLER SR CRSF 1396 BMWE 09/01/2018
- JOHN M HERBST USD 0278 UP 09/01/2018
- JEFFREY P SEIVERD USD 0899 UP 09/02/2018
- WALLACE W WHITE ASF 0598 NS 09/04/2018
- CHARLES R KITTS ASF 1464 NS 09/05/2018
- MIKEL D ROBERTS ASF 0301 NS 09/05/2018
- LA VERN R SMITH BURL 1351 BNSF 09/05/2018
- JEFF L JENSON BURNOR 0249 BNSF 09/05/2018
- SCOTT D O DONNELL BURNOR 0297 BNSF 09/05/2018
- CLAIR V CUNNINGHAM PENN 3094 NS 10/02/2018
- RANDALL E RICHARDS USD 0325 UP 09/05/2018
- ROBERT K MAROSTICA AT&SFF 2417 BNSF 09/07/2018
- JERRY M MOOD BURL 1351 BNSF 09/10/2018
- J L CLEMENTS SOU 0627 NS 09/10/2018
- DEAN A BARBER USD 1054 UP 09/16/2018
- TIMOTHY R FOX BURL 1316 BNSF 09/18/2018
- DOUGLAS M PETERSON BURNOR 0297 BNSF 09/20/2018
- KENNETH K SWANIGAN CRSF 1363 NS 09/20/2018
- MICHAEL J ALFORD USD 0686 UP 09/22/2018
- RANDY G SEAGER BURNOR 1453 BNSF 09/23/2018
- CHESTER J LEWANDOWSKI BURL 1906 SOO 09/28/2018
- ROBERT M MUSIL BURL 1316 BNSF 09/28/2018
- BRAD P O NEILL BURNOR 0735 BNSF 09/28/2018
- WILLIAM A OVERTON USD 1046 UP 09/28/2018
- DARWIN W RANDALL BURNOR 0303 BNSF 09/29/2018
- KENT M HIGEL USD 1133 UP 09/29/2018
- S G MULLIS SOU 0808 NS 09/30/2018
- STEPHAN A GLENN USD 1381 UP 09/30/2018

## *** OCTOBER 2018 ***
- CHARLES T BLAKE AT&SFF 1600 BNSF 10/01/2018
- RUSSELL J FABER BURL 1214 BNSF 10/01/2018
- RONALD D WALL BURL 1320 BNSF 10/01/2018
- GLEN L FORBORD BURNOR 2825 BNSF 10/01/2018
- M S GRANTHAM SOU 0804 NS 10/01/2018
- DUANE C JONES USD 1516 UP 10/01/2018
- RUBEN G LUNA USD 0473 UP 10/01/2018
- R L CROWE ASF 1107 NS 10/02/2018
- KEVIN S MEIL BURL 1965 SOO 10/02/2018
- MARK A MARTIN BURNOR 0706 BNSF 10/02/2018
- JOHN L MOZINSKI SR BURNOR 1280 BNSF 10/02/2018
- JOHN L THOMPSON BURNOR 0320 BNSF 10/02/2018
- PAUL F DELAMATER N E 1632 DH 10/02/2018
- KIM L KREFFT USD 0377 UP 10/02/2018
- PATRICK J BOHNENKAMP BURL 1142 BNSF 10/03/2018
- GERALD PONGONIS CRSF 1657 CSXT 10/04/2018
- DONALD A BALZANO BURL 0014 BNSF 10/06/2018
- DANNY L GARNER BURL 1214 BNSF 10/06/2018
- MARK A ZABROCKI BURNOR 0016 BNSF 10/13/2018
- LESLIE D SEBBO BURL 1320 BNSF 10/14/2018
- ELLERY R KONSOR BURL 1488 SOO 10/16/2018
- PAUL S DUBAS BURL 1214 BNSF 10/17/2018
- THOMAS A BARROW PENN 3098 NS 10/18/2018
- DAVID L DANIEL ASF 0598 NS 10/20/2018
- STACEY A WEAVER BURL 1142 BNSF 10/20/2018
- ARNOLD J BANDS PENN 3005 NRPC 10/24/2018
- ANTHONY V BOVE PENN 3012 NRPC 10/24/2018
- DOUGLAS C BRAITHWAITE PENN 3068 NRPC 10/24/2018
- JOHN BREEN PENN 3068 NRPC 10/24/2018
RETIREMENT CHANGES DURING
10/01/2018 TO 11/30/2018

*** OCTOBER 2018 Continued***

LARRY BROWN  PENN 3012 NRPC 10/24/2018
JOSEPH A CAPUTO PENN 3014 NRPC 10/24/2018
THOMAS E CHOMKO PENN 3082 NRPC 10/24/2018
DAVID R CHOYCE PENN 3014 NRPC 10/24/2018
CHEYENNE M COLEMAN PENN 3011 NRPC 10/24/2018
RONALD A CORDUAN PENN 3014 NRPC 10/24/2018
JOHN F CHRISTINZIO PENN 3012 NRPC 10/25/2018
ARNOLDO S CISNEROS PENN 3012 NRPC 10/25/2018
GARY W DELLINGER PENN 3075 NRPC 10/25/2018
MICHAEL J DUNN PENN 3068 NRPC 10/26/2018
DWIGHT A ENGLE PENN 3082 NRPC 10/26/2018
JOHN J ESHBACH PENN 3011 NRPC 10/26/2018
JAMES FERROGINE PENN 3068 NRPC 10/26/2018
DONALD L FICHTER PENN 3075 NRPC 10/26/2018
ROBERT GALLAGHER PENN 3005 NRPC 10/26/2018
HERBERT GRAHAM PENN 3082 NRPC 10/26/2018
LIONEL V GRASSO PENN 3011 NRPC 10/26/2018
WILLIAM J GUNKLE JR PENN 3039 NRPC 10/26/2018
ROBERT E HERR PENN 3011 NRPC 10/26/2018
DELORES A HOLDEN PENN 3095 NRPC 10/26/2018
CHARLES R IVES PENN 3095 NRPC 10/26/2018
RUSSELL D JOHNSTONE PENN 3095 NRPC 10/26/2018
EARL L LETTS PENN 3005 NRPC 10/29/2018
JAMES LIPSCOMB PENN 3068 NRPC 10/29/2018
STEPHEN LONGENDERFER PENN 3011 NRPC 10/29/2018
WALTER R MICICHE PENN 3075 NRPC 10/29/2018
FRANK MOLINO PENN 3012 NRPC 10/29/2018
RICHARD E MORTERUD PENN 3005 NRPC 10/29/2018
JEROME D PEARTREE PENN 3012 NRPC 10/29/2018
TAB L RINEHART BURL 1142 BNSF 10/30/2018
EARL PURNELL II PENN 3075 NRPC 10/30/2018
CURTIS L SAMHAMMER PENN 3014 NRPC 10/30/2018
LARRY A DUNCAN USD 0874 UP 10/30/2018
KENNETH W EMERSON AF 1507 LNW 10/31/2018
JOHN R HOOD BURNOR 0272 MRL 10/31/2018
LERoy SESSION PENN 3082 NRPC 10/31/2018
JAMES F SHIELDS PENN 3095 NRPC 10/31/2018
NORMAN E SIMS PENN 3082 NRPC 10/31/2018
IRVIN M SMITH III PENN 3082 NRPC 10/31/2018
LAWRENCE R SMOOT PENN 3012 NRPC 10/31/2018
ROBERT B STARR PENN 3075 NRPC 10/31/2018
CHRISTOPH K WALKER PENN 3014 NRPC 10/31/2018
JOHN WALTERS PENN 3005 NRPC 10/31/2018
KIM M WENZEL PENN 3075 NRPC 10/31/2018

*** NOVEMBER 2018 ***

JAMES D HUTSON AT&SFF 2407 BNSF 11/01/2018
DAVID J POPE BURNOR 0272 MRL 11/01/2018
KENT L JENSEN USD 1227 UP 11/01/2018
DAMRON S PARRISH USD 1402 UP 11/01/2018
K N BACON AT&SFF 2407 BNSF 11/02/2018
TYRONE F PATTERSON CRSD 2910 SPTA 11/02/2018
BRIAN S BALLS USD 1227 UP 11/02/2018
MICHAEL A CRAWFORD USD 0381 UP 11/07/2018
TIMOTHY MC CALL AF 1100 BMW 11/15/2018
WILHELM J CHELF AT&SFF 1082 BNSF 11/16/2018
CARL D STOREY AT&SFF 2417 BNSF 11/17/2018
MICHAEL R SIWIEC PENN 3082 NRPC 11/30/2018