

BMWED

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

JOURNAL



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September/October, 2013

Consolidated Rail System Federation Conducts Quadrennial Convention

System Officers Elected by Acclamation

The Consolidated Rail System Federation Convened its Twenty Third Quadrennial Convention on September 16 and 17, 2013 in Canandaigua, New York. Delegates and CRSF officers gathered at the Convention determined to conduct business for their members and set the System Federation on a solid course for the next four years.

A number of guests from National Division and other Systems attended the Convention. Among those visiting was National Division President Freddie Simpson, National Division Secretary/Treasurer Perry K. Geller Sr., Northeast Vice President Henry Wise and a number of National Division staff and System officers.

"As one with a long history with the CRSF, and as one of its former General Chairmen, I was extremely proud of how Brother Nemeth and the system officers and delegates conducted the Convention," said National Division

Secretary-Treasurer Perry Geller. "Having the opportunity to go home to my own System and be with close friends is always a treat. It was especially gratifying to see

Consolidated Rail, Continued on Page 2



CRSF General Chairman Nemeth addresses the Convention delegates.



Northeastern System Federation Convene 13th Quadrennial Convention

The Northeastern System Federation Convened its 13th Quadrennial Convention and Joint Protective Board meeting on September 24 and 25, 2013 in Springfield, Massachusetts. The meeting followed the previous election results in which all of the System officers were elected by acclamation.

Included with the Joint Protective Board members and officers in attendance were a number of guests. Among the guest speakers were BMWED President Freddie Simpson, Secretary-Treasurer Perry K. Geller Sr., Northeast Vice President Henry Wise, and Pennsylvania Federation General Chairman Jed Dodd.

General Chairman Dale Bogart chaired the meetings and a number



of the officers reported to the Joint Protective Board on their various assignments. All of the Board members were engaged and involved throughout the meetings.

"I enjoyed the opportunity to
Northeastern, Continued on Page 3

L-r: General Chairman Dale Bogart, Vice General Chairman John Miller, Vice General Chairman Richard Principato, and Vice General Chairman Renato Rufo.



See BMWED Third Regular Quadrennial Convention Call Letter Pages 8 - 10



Consolidated Rail, Continued from Page 1

the fellowship among those attending and observe the harmony in which the Convention was conducted. General Chairman Nemeth and the other officers did an excellent job as evidenced by how smooth the Convention went."

The Convention committees all reported to the delegates, the Convention business was conducted orderly and the delegates were all engaged in the process.

Several speakers were on hand to share information with the

delegates so that they could take the information back to their lodges and members.

Several people were honored with testimonials during the Convention. Included with the honorees was former Assistant General Chairman/Secretary-Treasurer John Giblin who is recovering from a long and serious illness (see *Around the Brotherhood*). Others honored with testimonials during the Convention were; Joint Protec-



National Division Secretary-Treasurer Perry K. Geller Sr. addresses Convention.

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National Division President Freddie Simpson addresses Convention.

tive Board Member Rick Root, former Assistant General Chairmen Paul Beard, Tom Mulford, and Rich McClean.

BMWED President Simpson offered, "I couldn't be more impressed with the way in which General Chairman Nemeth prepared for, and conducted the Convention. The membership's business could not have been conducted more harmoniously. I extend my congratulations to Brother Nemeth and all of the CRSF officers on their Convention and elections."

All of the full time CRSF officers were elected by acclamation and will continue to serve for the next four years. Those elected are as follows:

- Thomas J. Nemeth
General Chairman
- Edward W. Long
First Vice Chairman
- Paul Kilgallon
Second Vice Chairman
- Jason E. Graham
Secretary-Treasurer

- Michael D. Flowers
Assistant General Chairman
- Jeffery J. Bainter
Assistant General Chairman
- Jesse J. Dewe
Assistant General Chairman
- Tim Hoffman
Assistant General Chairman
- David G. Beal
Assistant General Chairman
- Perry K. Geller Jr.
Assistant General Chairman

All of the full-time officer's information can be found in the recent BMWED July/August edition of the Journal or at www.bmwe.org.

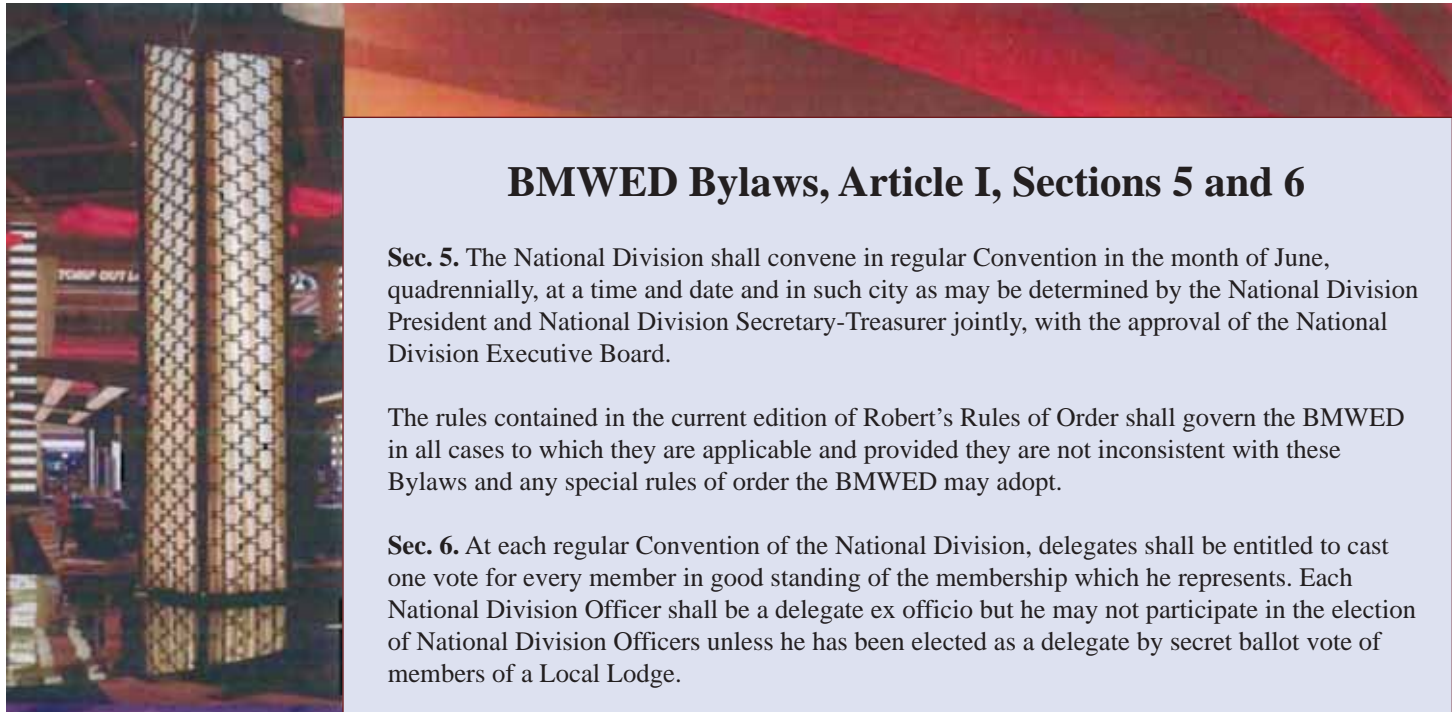
"I want to thank all of the delegates and officers for their hard work and diligence illustrated during the Convention," said CRSF General Chairman T. J. Nemeth. All of the CRSF officers will work hard with unrelenting dedication and conviction over the next four years to continue earning the confidence of our members."



System Officers Elected by Acclamation



CRSF Convention delegation



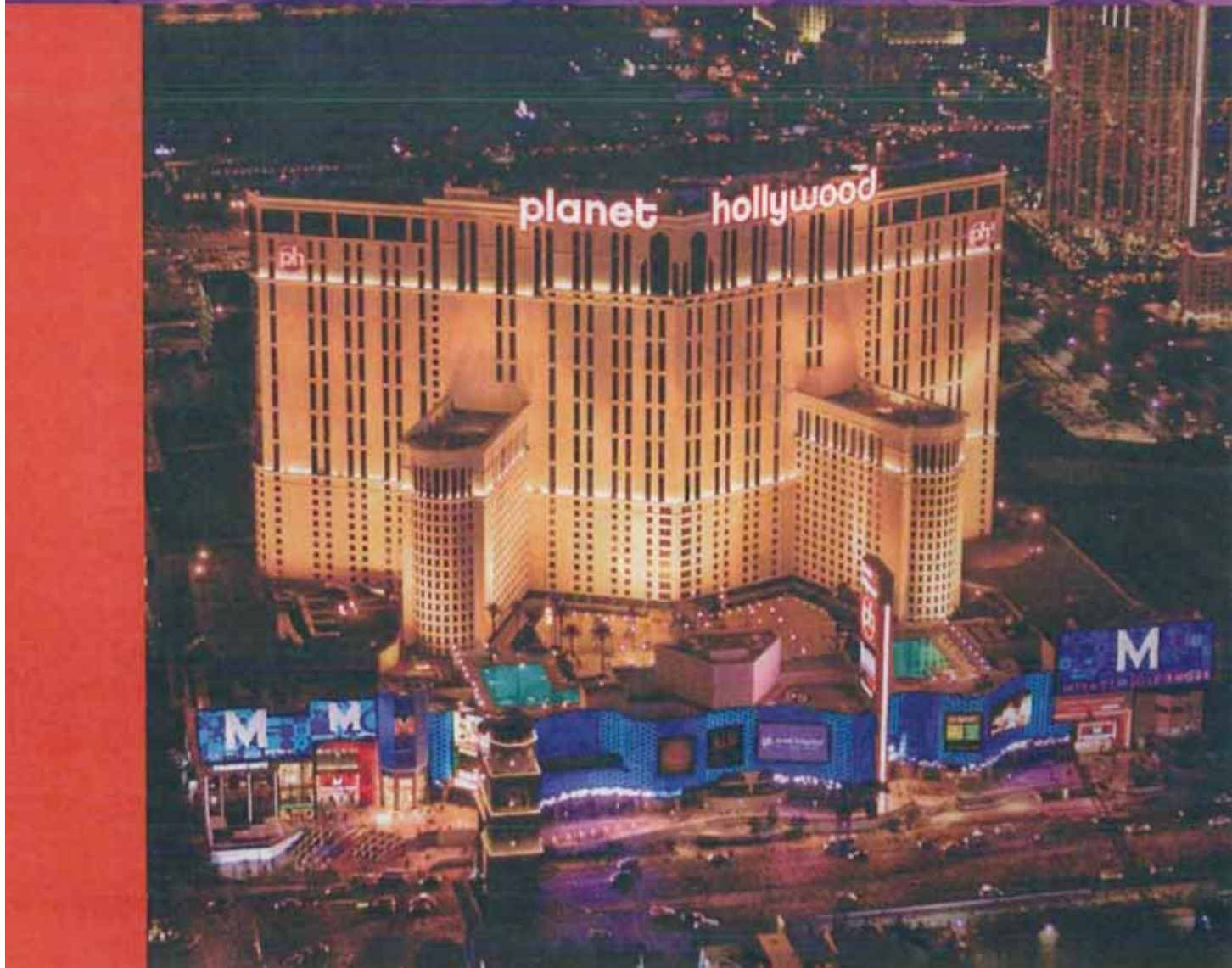
BMWED Bylaws, Article I, Sections 5 and 6

Sec. 5. The National Division shall convene in regular Convention in the month of June, quadrennially, at a time and date and in such city as may be determined by the National Division President and National Division Secretary-Treasurer jointly, with the approval of the National Division Executive Board.

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the BMWED in all cases to which they are applicable and provided they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the BMWED may adopt.

Sec. 6. At each regular Convention of the National Division, delegates shall be entitled to cast one vote for every member in good standing of the membership which he represents. Each National Division Officer shall be a delegate ex officio but he may not participate in the election of National Division Officers unless he has been elected as a delegate by secret ballot vote of members of a Local Lodge.

See BMWED Third Regular Quadrennial Convention Call Letter Pages 8 - 10



Northeastern, Continued from Page 1

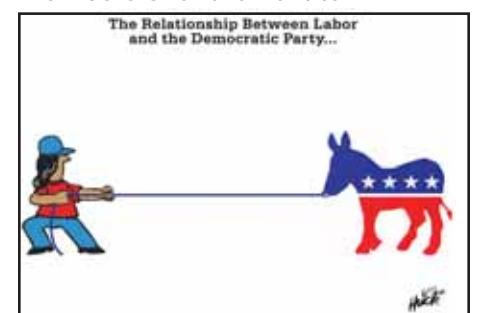
meet with the Northeastern System Federation officers and the rest of the Joint Protect Board," said BMWED National Division President Freddie Simpson. "As usual, Brother Bogart did a fine job of chairing the meetings as was evident by how smoothly the proceedings went. I congratulate all of the officers on their elections and for a very successful Convention."

Those elected to another term are as follows:

- Dale E. Bogart Jr.
General Chairman
- Renato G. Rufo
Vice General Chairman/
Secretary-Treasurer
- John E. Miller
Vice General Chairman
- Richard Principato
Vice General Chairman
- Michael B. Carter
Assistant General Chairman
- Kenneth E. Herrington
Assistant General Chairman
- Dave Connor
Assistant General Chairman
- Dave Houlihan
Executive Committee
- James Cranker
Executive Committee
- Charlie Miller
Executive Committee

The officer's terms will begin November 1, 2013.

"I would like to congratulate each of the Northeastern System Federation officers on their elections," said Northeast Vice President Henry Wise. "Each of the officers do a great job which was evidenced by their elections without opposition. I know that Brother Bogart and the other officers will continue to work hard for their members over the next term."



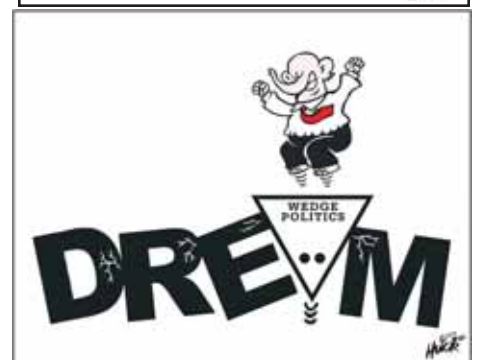
**BMWED - 127 Years of
Progress and Still...**



2014 Las Vegas

Third Regular Convention of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division Announced

The Third Regular Convention of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters will be held June 23 - 25, 2014, at the Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. More information will be provided as the Convention dates approach.





Perry K. Geller, Sr.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

It is October 1st, and as I write this column lawmakers in Washington have just shut down the government in a childish effort to get their own way. Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives and their puppet

masters are pushing to repeal or delay implementation of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). The Senate, with its Democratic Party majority, has vowed to quash these efforts to repeal the law. By the time you read this article, I expect cooler heads will have prevailed and some kind of stop-gap, temporary legislation to fund the government will be in place, at least for the time being.

With all the high-stakes brinkmanship surrounding the government shutdown, many Americans missed that the Republican controlled House of Representatives passed a food stamp bill that would immediately cut millions of unemployed Americans off the food stamp rolls by ending current waivers to the program's work and job training requirements. These requirements were added to the program in 1996, and mandate that able-bodied childless adults must be employed or enrolled in a Work Experience program in order to be eligible for

benefits. However, these eligibility requirements were waived during the recent recession because of the scarcity of jobs and the futility of training people for jobs that just did not exist.

Thankfully, the economy is slowly recovering, but there are still too many people who cannot find work, or cannot find work that pays a living wage. These people, numbering in the tens of millions, should not be tossed out in the street cold and hungry. This is the United States of America, the strongest and most prosperous nation on earth. No man, woman or child should go hungry in America!

While I wholeheartedly agree that we must reduce government spending and get our fiscal house in order, cutting food stamp benefits for the neediest among us is just adding to the misery of millions of unemployed Americans still struggling to get back on their feet after a long and devastating economic recession. I am all for cutting spending and cleaning up

fraud and abuse in government programs, including the food stamp program, officially known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). But we also need to be mindful that there are many Americans who, through no fault of their own, are currently relying on SNAP benefits to eat.

Who actually benefits from SNAP? The United States Department of Agriculture recently issued a report detailing the following about current recipients:

- Forty-three percent of SNAP recipients live at or below half the poverty line.
- Children under 18 account for 47 percent of all food stamp recipients.
- Forty-one percent of beneficiaries live in households with partially- or fully-employed workers.
- The share of SNAP recipients that also receive welfare benefits is at historic lows; about 10 percent.
- SNAP recipients spend most of their food budget on meals

prepared at home.

It is clear that we cannot just cut off food assistance to our nation's hungry without offering a viable alternative. Congressional millionaires talk about the evils of food stamps but they offer nothing but rhetoric to replace them. How can Congress and our nation help lift up our poor, feed the hungry, and reduce government spending? We can start by supporting collective bargaining and removing barriers to unionization. We can start by providing job training for jobs that actually exist. And we can start by ending corporate welfare, unfair trade policies, tax incentives and government subsidies that encourage the export of American jobs.

No nation on earth can end hunger by denying food to the hungry. Strong unions, collective bargaining, and trade and tax policies that keep American jobs at home are the keys to reducing hunger, cutting government spending, and rebuilding the American middle class.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

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

You may email, or send by U.S. Mail to:
Rbrassell1@aol.com Or,

BMWED Journal
c/o Randall Brassell
242 West Main Street #394
Hendersonville, TN 37075

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)





“RIGHT TO WORK” (FOR LESS) IS WRONG FOR WORKERS

BMWED Legislative Issues—113th Congress



Director of Government Affairs
Charlie Hogue

The War on Workers continues to be a serious problem for union members across the United States. One example is the anti-worker right-to-work (for less) legislation sweeping our nation state by state. Right-to-work (for less) legislation has become increasingly more accepted and common place in state legislatures. Right-to-work (for less) law has gained traction over time but only because most people don't fully understand the impact it will have on their ability to make an honest wage.

Union members have found themselves battling against right-to-work (for less) in states where this controversial threat was once seen as impossible. The BMWED has been fighting alongside other labor unions, including our Teamster Locals to defend against this destructive right-to-work (for less) legislation. The more these laws become standard practice at a state level, the more our rights as railroaders become increasingly threatened at the federal level.

Specifically, every year at least one US Senator and US Representative introduces a national right-to-work (for less) piece of legislation that the BMWED has been able to prevent from being passed into law. However, if this anti-labor law is passed in enough states it will be harder and harder to prevent at the national level.

Right-to-work (for less) legislation is nothing more than a back door policy to gut unions and lower wages as well as reduce workers' benefits. It allows workers to work under union negotiated contracts without sharing in the cost of representation. The result would be that unions would not be financially able to represent its members and companies could take away all of our rights, benefits and drastically reduce our wages. Years of negotiated benefits like railroad retirement, vacation pay, holiday pay, wage increases and safe working conditions could all be taken away from every railroad employee if we allow this war on workers to prevail.

What is Right-to-Work (for less)?

Right-to-Work (for less) prevents employers and their employees from negotiating an agreement known as an employment security clause that requires all workers who receive the benefits of a collective bargaining agreement to pay their share toward the benefit of the bargaining agreement. Federal law already requires a union to represent ALL workers in a bargaining unit. Right-to-Work (for less) laws prohibit those unions

and employers from negotiating employment security clauses, ensuring a freeloader mentality in an attempt to diminish a union's leverage at the bargaining table.

Does Right-to-Work (for less) really help to create jobs?

No! Right-to-Work (for less) laws do little to assist in creating quality jobs, and the business community largely does not consider Right-to-Work (for less) a major factor in locating in specific states or communities. Actually, it's the reverse: For every \$1 million in cut wages, local economies lose SIX jobs. In fact, an Ohio University report found that Right-to-Work (for less) laws actually lead to a decrease in employment in many industries.

Does Right-to-Work (for less) help workers and their communities?

Right-to-Work (for less) hurts everyone but Wall Street CEOs by driving down quality-of-life standards for workers and the communities of which they are a part.

A few more helpful statistics:

- The rate of employer-sponsored retirement plans is nearly 5 percent lower in Right-to-Work (for less) states.

- The rate of workplace deaths is 52.9 percent higher in states that currently have Right-to-Work (for less) laws.

Some Helpful FACTS on Right-to-Work (for Less)

	RTW States	Non-RTW States	Difference
Average Worker Salary	\$39,169	\$44,707	-\$5,538
Median Household Income	\$46,328	\$52,513	-\$6,185
Low-Wage Jobs (%)	28.3%	19.5%	-8.8%
Uninsured Adults	16.7%	13.5%	+3.2%
Uninsured Children	10.4%	7.5%	+2.9%
Workers with Job-based Health Insurance	60.1%	64%	-3.9%
Employers Offering Insurance to Employees	50.3%	56.7%	-6.4%
Employers with Fewer Than 50 Workers Offering Health Insurance	34.6%	43.8%	-9.2%
Poverty Rate (Adults)	19.1%	16.6%	-2.5%
Poverty Rates (Children)	26%	23.3%	-2.7%

- Right-to-Work (for less) states spend \$2,671 less per pupil on elementary and secondary education than non-Right-to-Work (for less) states, and students are less likely to be at grade level in math and reading.

- The infant mortality rate is 16 percent higher in Right-to-Work (for less) states.

Dennis “Denny” W. Bell

When one of their own was stricken with a rare form of cancer, a group of Nebraska railroaders spear-headed a fundraiser with the aim of lessening the financial burden of treatment.



Sadly, Denny Bell, 57, passed away August 22, just a few short months following his diagnosis of Mantle Cell Lymphoma. Brother Bell was a member of Lodge 1108 out of Crawford, Neb. and a 36-year railroader for the BNSF. From all accounts, Brother Bell loved his job

as a floating machine operator and was a warm and caring friend to all he met on the railroad. He was said to have worn a smile everywhere he went.

Fellow BMWED members and close friends Mike Burke, Kacey Clark, Jodi Thompson, and Clark's wife, Diane Clark, were inspired by their friend's kindness and generosity over the years and wanted to do something helpful in his most trying time of need.

“Denny was a great guy,” Sister Thompson said. “He was the hardest worker ever. I don't know if he ever missed a day of work. He

traveled with the Lowboy trailer, so he was well-known around the railroad. He made a lot of friends.”

Upon diagnosis, Brother Bell was required to relocate to Scottsdale, Ariz. and start costly treatments. Mantle Cell Lymphoma is one of the rarest of the non-Hodgkin's lymphomas. Presently, there are only around 15,000 patients in the United States.

It was upon hearing this news that Brother Burke had an idea for a fundraiser. With the assistance Brother Bell's in-laws, farmers Gale and Renee Henry, the group obtained two halves of beef, which they raffled off through tickets. Railroaders from Spokane, Wash.

to Robbinsville, N.J., and everywhere in-between bought tickets for the cause, which raised \$31,500 to help cover Brother Bell's medical and living expenses in Arizona.

In a touching gesture, one of the two winners wrote “Denny Bell” on the raffle ticket, effectively donating the half of beef back to the fund. Burke Cattle Company purchased the beef, which put \$1,250 back in the fundraising tally.

We here at the BMWED are saddened to hear of Brother Bell's passing and wish to extend our deepest condolences to his wife, Jana, and their children, Denya and Dustin, and all of his longstanding friends on the railroad.



RETIREMENT CHANGES DURING 07/01/2013 TO 08/31/2013

*** December 2012 ***				*** February 2013 ***				*** March 2013 ***				*** April 2013 ***				*** May 2013 ***				*** June 2013 ***				*** July 2013 ***				*** August 2013 ***								
Donald J Claus	BURL	1214	BNSF	12/01/2012	George J Hollock	PENN	0935	NS	06/01/2013	James E Dryer II	BURL	0344	BNSF	07/02/2013																						
Donald L Mc Bride	AT&SFF	2404	BNSF	12/04/2012	Stanley J Crabtree	BURL	2621	BNSF	06/02/2013	Melvin H Lenox	BURL	0509	BNSF	07/02/2013																						
					Willard Rice	SOU	0636	NS	06/02/2013	James L Mohnike	BURL	1214	BNSF	07/02/2013																						
					Thomas A Buck	BURL	0788	BNSF	06/04/2013	Roger W Stein	BURL	1316	BNSF	07/02/2013																						
					Garry L Williams	BURL	1214	BNSF	06/04/2013	Raymond R Robinson	AF	1377	CSXT	07/03/2013																						
Larry W Rainer	ICGF	0652	IC	02/01/2013	Rayford Cornett	CRSF	1978	CSXT	06/04/2013	Robert J Seymour	AF	1377	CSXT	07/03/2013																						
Edward Felton	AT&SFF	2413	BNSF	02/02/2013	Edward W Pierson	CRSF	1980	CSXT	06/04/2013	John C Shellenbarger	AF	0885	CSXT	07/03/2013																						
					Jeffrey A Morris	PENN	3043	NS	06/04/2013	Dennis L Kemnitz	BURNOR	0364	BNSF	07/03/2013																						
					Gary W Geho	CRSF	1037	CSXT	06/05/2013	Dennis A Wagner	AF	0737	CSXT	07/05/2013																						
J B Miller	SOU	0525	NS	03/01/2013	Gary L Kupferschmidt	BURL	0036	SOO	06/06/2013	Dennis L Francke	BURL	1320	BNSF	07/06/2013																						
Elfego P Covarrubias	USD	1002	UP	03/01/2013	Harry J Korn	CRSF	2779	CSXT	06/06/2013	Spencer W Morrissey	BURL	1316	BNSF	07/06/2013																						
Walter E Nowalk	CRSF	1900	NS	03/30/2013	William L Bryant	AF	0225	CSXT	06/07/2013	Brian J Brager	BURNOR	1426	BNSF	07/06/2013																						
					William H Irvine	CRSF	1657	NS	06/07/2013	Lyle A Leggett	BURNOR	1426	BNSF	07/06/2013																						
					Richard D Comer	ASF	0572	NS	06/08/2013	Jerry R Varholdt	BURNOR	0249	BNSF	07/11/2013																						
					Clarence E Cross	SOU	0586	NS	06/08/2013	B E Miller Jr	ASF	0301	NS	07/12/2013																						
Robert E Kobielusz	BURL	1074	BNSF	04/02/2013	Marion J Langdon	SOU	0636	NS	06/08/2013	Gregory A Goy	BURL	1302	BNSF	07/13/2013																						
Robert C Schanick	CRSF	0109	GTW	04/02/2013	Steve Dowler	AF	0698	CSXT	06/13/2013	Timothy G Graten	BURNOR	0249	BNSF	07/13/2013																						
Ronnie B Chowning	AT&SFF	2402	BNSF	04/06/2013	Terry L Hubbard	USD	0922	UP	06/14/2013	Rodolfo C Rojas	BURL	0099	SOO	07/15/2013																						
Richard H Zinni	CRSF	1650	CSXT	04/30/2013	Joseph P Dean	ASF	0572	NS	06/22/2013	Rowland K Buszkohl	BURL	0961	BNSF	07/16/2013																						
					Larry L Shisler	BURL	2643	SOO	06/25/2013	Alvin L Rushing	BURL	0798	BNSF	07/19/2013																						
					Carl D TACY JR	AF	1064	CSXT	06/27/2013	Edward J Zimdars	BURNOR	0295	MRL	07/19/2013																						
					IRA Martin	AF	0670	CSXT	06/28/2013	Arlen R Peterson	BURL	1214	BNSF	07/20/2013																						
					Anthony R Jacobson	BURL	2643	SOO	06/28/2013	Harold N Samples	BURNOR	1092	BNSF	07/21/2013																						
					Joseph Crandley	PENN	3012	NRPC	06/28/2013	George R Powell	BURNOR	0320	BNSF	07/27/2013																						
					Richard L Mc Namer	USD	0922	UP	06/28/2013	Henry J Stroy	SOU	1618	NS	07/30/2013																						
					Gary D Hassler	BURL	0014	BNSF	06/29/2013	Gerald D Day	BURL	1662	SOO	07/31/2013																						
					Rodney J Foland	BURNOR	0104	BNSF	06/29/2013	John H Pierce	BURL	1906	SOO	07/31/2013																						
					Vincent R Terrill Jr	CRSF	0201	MBCR	06/29/2013	Vick J Follow	BURNOR	1426	BNSF	07/31/2013																						
					R A Lindsey	SOU	0524	NS	06/29/2013	William Barcomb	N E	1323	DH	07/31/2013																						
					Billy W Jennings	AF	1176	UP	06/30/2013	Andrew Klemash Jr	N E	1551	DH	07/31/2013																						
					Manuel R Roach	AF	0665	CSXT	06/30/2013	Andrew P Markley III	N E	1368	DH	07/31/2013																						
					Steven S Nelson	BURNOR	1453	BNSF	06/30/2013	Gary A Hudson	USD	0437	UP	07/31/2013																						
					Lamar Kemp	CRSF	1657	CSXT	06/30/2013																											
					Armando Sierra	CRSF	1362	NS	06/30/2013																											
					Salvador M Marin	USD	0107	UP	06/30/2013																											

Roll of Honor, Continued from Page 5

Bruce W Johnson	CRSF	0201	1973	Rafael G Sandoval	USD	0914	1973
Alvin L Johnson	SOU	0808	1973	Earl A Sawyer	N E	1323	1973
Lawrence D Kelly	BURL	1214	1973	Edward R Shepherd	AF-SE	1377	1973
David W Kennedy	USD	0508	1973	John M Shopinski	BURL	0788	1973
John P Kerns	CRSF	0166	1973	David E Spurlock	AF-SE	0112	1973
William Keys	AF-SW	1048	1973	Francis L Story	AT&SFF	2414	1973
Harold Koger	AT&SFF	2402	1973	Alfred D Todd Jr	CRSF	1657	1973
Norman D Krueger	WCSD	2932	1973	James H Van Cleave	USD	0700	1973
Gregory D Largent	USD	1046	1973	Jay B Van Nortwick	AF-SW	0688	1973
David E Legg	BURL	1481	1973	Jerry B Vetruba	BURNOR	1296	1973
Joseph T Lorenz	AF-SE	0695	1973	Scott Wagner	BURL	2643	1973
Jack R Marsh	USD	1148	1973	Floyd D Ward	USD	0779	1973
Ronald L Martin	AF-SW	0564	1973	Mark A Weber	BURL	1906	1973
Michael D Martin	BURNOR	0706	1973	Robert A Winter	USD	0700	1973
Larry R Mc Calla	BURNOR	0144	1973	Timothy W Wireman	CRSF	1900	1973
Thomas R MC COY	ASF	1464	1973	John F Wonderly	USD	0381	1973
Jerry J Mc Creery	BURL	1351	1973	W Tom Zimmerman	AT&SFF	0518	1973
VINCENT T Mc Kay	AT&SFF	0526	1973				
John J Mc Mahon	ASF	1701	1973				
Mike E Miller	BURL	2852	1973				
Michael K Miller	CRSF	1900	1973				
Leander MILLER JR	CRSFNP	1664	1973				
John L Miller Jr	AF-SE	0698	1973				
Edward F Monroe Jr	CRSF	1350	1973				
Gary W Murray	USD	0227	1973				
D J Neely	BURL	0961	1973				
Johnny R Norris	AF-SW	1252	1973				
Edward J Nyquist	BURNOR	0320	1973				
Donald Ollila	BURL	1489	1973				
Brian M Olson	BURL	1074	1973				
Larry E Orman	BURL	1533	1973				
Ronald J Pagotto	CRSF	1350	1973				
Mark A Pahls	CRSF	1234	1973				
Leroy Parker	CRSF	0305	1973				
Danny Perry	CRSF	1900	1973				
Frederick A Phillips	CRSFNP	1664	1973				
Edward J Portner	USD	0343	1973				
Fay L Proudfoot	BURNOR	1055	1973				
Dake L Pulse	BURNOR	0297	1973				
Ricky J Richard	AF-SW	1252	1973				
Joseph G Rosales	AT&SFF	2418	1973				
Steven J Runge	BURNOR	0144	1973				



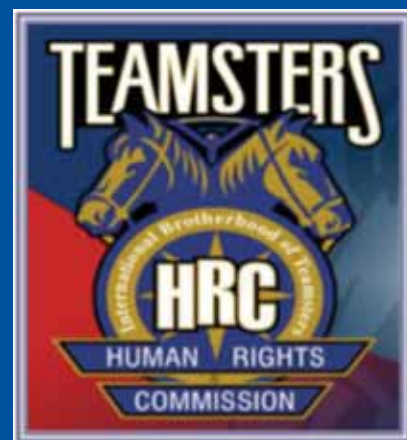
Denzil L Flener	ICGF	1210	1963
Richard L Gehrke	USD	1879	1963
Roman C Mendez	USD	1054	1963
David W Selby	USD	0914	1963
Bill J Stephens	SOU	0636	1963



Manuel M Davalos	AT&SFF	2419	1953
Thomas H Keaton	ASF	0551	1953

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!



How to Use QR Codes

To access the information, you will need to download one of several free QR Code reader apps on your smartphone. When you see a QR Code, focus your camera on the image and the application will recognize the code and automatically open up the link to display the web content.

BMWED ISSUES CONVENTION CALL

National Division Convention Set for June 23, 2014

The National Division will mail out the official notice of Convention Call to all Local Lodge Secretary-Treasurers on November 4, 2013. The Call Letter is reproduced here with a collection of questions and answers pertaining to the process for BMWED/IBT eligibility to vote, be nominated or be elected to union office (Note: The Convention Call Letter may, or may not appear here before it reaches the recipients by U. S. Mail):

Official Convention Call Letter

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that, in accordance with Article I, Section 5, of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division's Bylaws, the Third Regular National Division Convention of our Brotherhood will convene at Planet Hollywood Hotel & Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada, at 9:00 a.m., Monday, June 23, 2014, for the purpose of reviewing the work and accomplishments of the Brotherhood, to consider legislation for the benefit and advancement of the membership, to amend the National Division Bylaws, to elect officers and to act upon such other business as may properly come before the Convention.

REPRESENTATION

Your attention is directed to Article XVIII, Section 14, Paragraph 1, of the National Division Bylaws, which provides, in pertinent part, that: "Each Local Lodge in good standing shall be entitled to be represented at the National Division Convention by a delegate or alternate, or a delegate ex officio as set forth in the second paragraph of this Section. However, in the event a Local Lodge elects not to send its own member or delegate ex officio to the National Division Convention, two or more Local Lodges may elect to be represented by a delegate and/or alternate of another Local Lodge in the BMWED from their System Division Federation. No delegate may represent more than five hundred (500) members at the National Division Convention unless such members are all members of one Local Lodge. A delegate or alternate to the National Division Convention may represent as many Lodges as may elect him if the total membership so represented does not exceed five hundred (500) members."

EX OFFICIO DELEGATES

Article XVIII, Section 14, Paragraph 2, of the National Division Bylaws governs the selection of ex officio delegates to the National Division Convention and provides as follows:

"All delegates and alternates to National Division Conventions must be elected by secret ballot vote of the members in good standing of the Local Lodge by which they are accredited to the Convention; provided, however, that National Division Officers shall be delegates ex officio at all National Division Conventions as set forth in Article I, Section 6, if they are not elected as a delegate by a Local Lodge; and provided, further, that if a General Chairman or elective full time System Division or Federation Officer is not elected as a delegate by a Local Lodge, such

General Chairman or such System Division or Federation Officer when designated by the General Chairman will, by virtue of his election to such office, be a delegate ex officio at all National Division Conventions (at no expense to the National Division) and accorded the same rights and privileges enjoyed by National Division Officers who are delegates ex officio as set forth in Article I, Section 6. When National Division Officers or General Chairmen or full time System Division or Federation Officers are delegates ex officio at National Division Conventions, such Officers will be entitled to cast one vote in all matters before the National Division Convention except election of National Division Officers."

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTION AS DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE DELEGATE

Article XVIII, Section 14, Paragraph 3, of the National Division Bylaws sets forth the eligibility requirements to run for delegate and alternate to the National Division Convention:

"All National Division Convention delegates or alternates shall be members in good standing of some Local Lodge in good standing with the National Division, and shall meet the eligibility requirements as set forth in paragraph 4.9 of the Merger Agreement, and be a member in good standing to May 1 of the Convention year."

Retired Local Lodge Secretary-Treasurers holding such office under the provisions of paragraph 4.11 of the Merger Agreement are **not** eligible to run for delegate or alternate delegate. Retired state legislative directors holding such office, and all other BMWED retirees (i.e., those not "actively employed at the craft" as required under Article II, Section 4(a)(1) of the IBT Constitution), are also not eligible to run for delegate or alternate delegate.

ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES

Article XVIII, Section 14, Paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5, of the National Division Bylaws, sets forth the procedures by which delegates and alternates to the National Division Convention are elected:

"All delegates and alternates to National Division Conventions must be elected by secret ballot vote of the members in good standing of the Local Lodge by which they are accredited to the Convention; provided, however, that National Division Officers shall be delegates ex officio at all National Division Conventions as set forth in Article I, Section 6, if they are not elected as a delegate by a Local Lodge; and provided, further, that if a General Chairman or elective full time System Division or Federation Officer is not elected as a delegate by a Local Lodge, such General Chairman or such System Division or Federation Officer when designated by the General Chairman will, by virtue of his election to such office, be a delegate ex officio at all National Division Conventions (at no expense to the National Division) and accorded the same rights and privileges enjoyed by National Division Officers who are delegates ex officio as set forth

in Article I, Section 6. When National Division Officers or General Chairmen or full time System Division or Federation Officers are delegates ex officio at National Division Conventions, such Officers will be entitled to cast one vote in all matters before the National Division Convention except election of National Division Officers."

"All National Division Convention delegates or alternates shall be members in good standing of some Local Lodge in good standing with the National Division, and shall meet the eligibility requirements as set forth in paragraph 4.9 of the Merger Agreement, and be a member in good standing to May 1 of the Convention year."

"Local Lodges shall elect delegates and alternates to the National Division Convention at a meeting held on or after January 1 of the year in which the Convention convenes. Provided, however, that Local Lodges that do not ordinarily meet between January 1 and May 1, may conduct such elections during the second half of the year prior to the year in which the convention convenes. All members in good standing of the Local Lodge will be given at least fifteen (15) days advance notice in writing at their last known addresses of the date, time and place at which election shall be held. The National Division Secretary-Treasurer will be advised of the results of such elections in ample time for this information to be recorded at the National Division. All expenses of said delegates shall be paid by Local Lodge or Lodges represented."

"The alternate will take the place of the delegate in case the delegate is unable to serve."

ISSUANCE OF CREDENTIALS

Article XVIII, Section 14, Paragraph 6, of the National Division Bylaws describes the manner in which Credentials will be issued to delegates and alternates to the National Division Convention:

"Credentials shall be issued to the Secretary-Treasurers of Local Lodges prior to January 1 of the year of the National Division Convention. Credentials must be signed by an elected officer of that Local Lodge. In the event that there is not a Local Lodge Officer present, a System Division or Federation Officer may sign the credential. Original credentials shall be given to the duly elected delegates. Duplicate credentials shall be forwarded to the National Division Secretary-Treasurer's office as soon as possible after the election of the delegates."

DELEGATE VOTING STRENGTH

Article XVIII, Section 14, Paragraph 7, of the National Division Bylaws prescribes the method by which delegate voting strength will be determined:

"Representative votes for each delegate shall be determined in accordance with National Division records twenty (20) days prior to the opening of the Convention, and shall reflect all members in good standing as of May 1 of that year. No votes shall be added and no duplicate credentials shall be accepted after twenty (20) days prior to the opening of the Convention."

Convention Call, Continued on Page 9

Convention Call, Continued from Page 8

PROHIBITION AGAINST THE TRANSFER OF VOTES OR CREDENTIALS

You should be advised that the transfer of votes between delegates will **not** be permitted at the 2014 National Division Convention and that under Article XVIII, Section 14, Paragraph 1, of the National Division Bylaws, no delegate may represent more than five hundred (500) members unless the members are all members of one Local Lodge. Only members in good standing are counted in arriving at a Lodge's voting strength.

Therefore, care should be exercised in those instances where a member is elected as a delegate representing more than one Local Lodge with combined membership in excess of five hundred (500). Any delegate present at the Convention who was elected as the delegate for more than one Local Lodge will be required to register as the delegate for all such Lodges and will **not** be permitted to transfer his/her credential to an alternate for such Local Lodge(s), even though the alternate is in attendance and the delegate may be carrying in excess of five hundred (500) votes.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS TO VOTE IN LODGE ELECTIONS

Only members in good standing are entitled to vote in the election of a delegate or alternate to the National Division Convention. Retired Local Lodge Secretary-Treasurers holding such office and paying full dues under the provisions of paragraph 4.11 of the merger agreement are also entitled to nominate, second, and vote in the election of delegate and alternate to the National Division Convention.

Retired members who are paying full dues, retiree dues of \$16.00 per year, or National Division dues to protect their death benefit, are **not** eligible to vote in Lodge elections. Members who have secured a Withdrawal Card after leaving the service of the railroad, being promoted to an official and/or excepted position with the railroad or transferring to another craft, or who are considered an agency or objector fee payer, are not eligible to participate in the election of a delegate or alternate to the National Division Convention even if they are paying full dues.

FIFTEEN-DAY ADVANCE WRITTEN NOTICE REQUIRED

The National Division Bylaws requires that advance written notice by mail to the membership be given of the holding of a meeting for the purpose of nominating and electing delegates and alternates to the National Division Convention at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of their nomination and election. In calculating the 15-day period, the day the cards are mailed is not counted, but the day of the meeting is counted.

The "Notice of Meeting Card" (Form F-86) must be mailed to all members who are eligible to participate in the election at their last known address. The posting of meeting notices on bulletin boards, tool sheds, etc., or their distribution to members of gangs at the work site, does not satisfy the notice requirements.

If you will provide the National Division or your System office with advance notice of the

date of your meeting, we will furnish you with address labels or Notice of Meeting Cards with pre-printed addresses. Prior to mailing, you should check the addresses against your current membership records to insure that all members receive a notice of the meeting, since it may be necessary to hand-address cards for members for whom addresses were not furnished. Addresses for those members who are deceased or individuals who are no longer members of the Brotherhood should be discarded.

QUORUM REQUIRED TO ELECT DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE

Article XVIII, Section 6, Paragraph 3, of the National Division Bylaws provides that five (5) members in good standing constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting Lodge business. Thus, if there are not five (5) members in good standing present at your Lodge meeting which has been designated to elect a delegate and alternate to the National Division Convention, it will be necessary to reschedule the election due to the fact that a quorum was not present.

SECRET BALLOT ELECTION

Your attention is again called to Article XVIII, Section 14, Paragraph 2, of the National Division Bylaws, wherein all delegates and alternates **must** be elected by secret ballot. This is also a requirement of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, and must be adhered to.

MAILING OF CREDENTIALS

Credentials will be issued and mailed from the National Division in sufficient time to be in the hands of Local Lodge Secretary-Treasurers prior to January 1 of the year of the National Division Convention, in accordance with Article XVIII, Section 14.

Early election by the Local Lodges of delegates and alternates is requested in order that the duplicate credentials are received by the National Division Secretary-Treasurer from the Lodge Secretary-Treasurers, twenty (20) days prior to Convention (June 3, 2014), in accordance with Article XVIII, Section 14, Paragraph 7, for the completion of National Division records.

PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

Article XX, Section 1, of the National Division Bylaws, provides that all proposals to alter or amend the National Division Bylaws which are printed in the BMWED Journal thirty (30) days before the day the Convention begins, may be enacted by a majority vote of the delegates assembled at the National Division Convention. Therefore, to comply with this requirement, all proposed amendments to the National Division Bylaws that are to be published in the BMWED Journal must reach the National Division not later than March 30, 2014. In the case of proposed amendments to the National Division Bylaws which are not published in the BMWED Journal, the approval of three-fourths of the delegates is necessary for their adoption.

It is not necessary that resolutions other than those proposing to alter or amend the National Division Bylaws be printed in the BMWED Journal. However, such resolutions should be submitted in advance in order that the Resolu-

tion Committee can consider them before the Convention convenes and submit a report to the Convention.

All proposals to amend the National Division Bylaws and all resolutions that are to be considered by the Resolution Committee should be mailed to the National Division President.

Copies of this Convention Call were sent to all National Division and System Officers, National Division Appointees, State Legislative Directors and Local Lodge Presidents in the United States. Excerpts of this Convention Call will be published in the September/October 2013 issue of the BMWED Journal and is intended to serve as official notice to all members of the Brotherhood.

BMWED/IBT ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE, BE NOMINATED OR BE ELECTED TO UNION OFFICE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1: I've heard that since we are now under the Teamster's eligibility for elections, twenty four (24) months of Continuous Good Standing (i.e., continuous timely dues payments) are required to be nominated and elected for office, is this true?

ANSWER 1: Yes, for members of local lodges in existence for more than 24 months, 24 months "Continuous Good Standing" is required (*Article II, Section 4(a)(1) IBT Constitution*). For members of newly-chartered local lodges in existence for less than 24 months, the provisions of Article II, Section 4(b) of the IBT Constitution would apply.

QUESTION 2: How are the twenty four (24) months of Continuous Good Standing counted?

ANSWER 2: Starting with the month prior to nomination and the prior twenty three (23) months, all of which must be consecutive (*Article II, Section 4(a)(1) IBT Constitution, and Paragraph 4.9 of the Merger Agreement*).

QUESTION 3: What about a late payment during those twenty four (24) months?

ANSWER 3: In the case of either a late or missing payment the member would not be eligible for nomination and election (*Article II, Section 4(a)(1) and Article X, Section 5(c) IBT Constitution*).

QUESTION 4: Does the 24 month continuous good standing provision also apply to nominating or voting in the election?

ANSWER 4: No, you need a minimum of one month good standing; the month prior to the month of nomination (and the month prior to election if nomination and election will be held in different months). A member can restore "good standing" by paying required dues to the duly accredited Secretary-Treasurer prior to the meeting and commencement of nominations or elections (*Article X, Section 5(c) IBT Constitution, and Paragraph 4.8 of the Merger Agreement*).

Convention Call, Continued on Page 10



Convention Call, Continued from Page 9

QUESTION 5: What if I was on Payroll Dues Deduction and the Carrier didn't take my dues?

ANSWER 5: In accordance with Article X, Section 5(c) of the IBT Constitution:

A member on dues checkoff whose employer fails to make a proper deduction during any month in which the member has earnings from work performed during the month from which the dues could have been deducted, or has earnings from which the employer normally makes a dues deduction pursuant to the contract or established practice, shall not lose good standing status for that month. In such an event, the Local Union shall notify the member of his employer's failure and payment shall be made by the member within thirty (30) days of said notice in order to retain good standing status.

QUESTION 6: Would a BMWED Unemployment Card cover me for months that I was furloughed?

ANSWER 6: No, under the Teamster's Constitution an Unemployment Card does not count toward the required twenty four (24) months in calculating Continuous Good Standing (*Paragraph 4.8 of Merger Agreement*).

QUESTION 7: What if I was called up for Active Duty, would those months count when I didn't pay dues?

ANSWER 7: Under Article II, Section 4(a) of the Teamster Constitution states:

Members in a reserve component of the military or National Guard who are called to active service lasting more than thirty (30) days but not more than twenty-four (24) consecutive months, shall be considered to be on Union approved leave of absence without any further action by the Local Union Executive Board. During such leave, the member shall not be obligated to pay dues beginning with the month in which the member commences his active duty.... The member shall notify the Local Union that he has been released from active service within thirty (30) days and will be responsible for paying his dues beginning with the month following the

month of release. In the event the member remains in active service after twenty-four (24) months, the member must pay dues for the month following the expiration of the twenty-four (24) month period in order to remain in good standing.

QUESTION 8: In looking at my dues payment record for the previous twenty four (24) months I see one month that shows "LF," is that OK? Am I eligible to run for office?

ANSWER 8: No, LF means Late Full Dues. A late payment of dues (LF) breaks your Continuous Good Standing; therefore a LF would not count in calculating the twenty four (24) months of Continuous Good Standing (*Article II, Section 4(a)(1) and Article X, Section 5(c) IBT Constitution*).

QUESTION 9: In looking at my dues record for the previous twenty four (24) months I see several months at the beginning that show "OF," is that OK? Am I eligible to run for office?

ANSWER 9: No, OF stands for Officials Fee (Seniority Retention Fees). This Fee is different than Full Dues even though it can be the same dollar amount. Persons paying seniority retention (OF) do not have full membership rights nor are they deemed to be "actively employed at the craft" as required under Article II, Section 4(a) (1) of the Teamster Constitution (*Article XVII, Section 4(a) BMWED Bylaws, and Article II, Section 4(a)(1) of IBT Constitution*).

QUESTION 10: If "LF" and "OF" payments don't count toward the twenty four (24) months what other codes don't count?

ANSWER 10: Other codes that don't count are:

F=Fee, RD=Retired Dues, EX=Exempt Dues, LF=Late Full Dues, LU=Late Unemployed Dues, AS=Assessment, UC=Unemployment Card, AF=Agency Fee, LRA=Late Retired Dues & Assessment, WVA=Waived Dues & Assessment, AFA=Agency Fee & Assessment, LR=Late Retired Dues, WV=Waived Dues, DIS=Dispensation, OF=Officials Fee, OB=Objector Fee, RDA=Retired Dues & Assessment, EXA=Exempt Dues & Assessment, LFA=Late Full Dues & Assessment, LUA=Late Unemployed Dues & Assessment,

OFA=Officials Fee & Assessment, OBA=Objector Fee & Assessment, — = Missing Payment (*National Division ST Dept.*).

QUESTION 11: With all those codes not counting maybe it would be easier if you told me what codes do count toward the twenty four (24) month requirement?

ANSWER 11: The codes that would count toward eligibility are:

FDA=Full Dues & Assessment, FFA=Fee & Full Dues & Assessment, FD=Full Dues, FF=Fee & Full Dues, and UD=Unemployed Dues (*National Division ST Dept.*).

QUESTION 12: Once elected, would I have to continue to pay timely dues to remain in office if I was furloughed?

ANSWER 12: It would depend on what office you were elected to. Under the Teamster's Constitution and the BMWED Bylaws you would not have to pay dues to hold office during furlough but be mindful of the next election and the twenty four (24) month requirement (*Article XVI, Section 2 BMWED Bylaws, and Article II, Section 4(a)(1) IBT Constitution*).

The exception could be if you were elected to a System, Division or Federation office. Many of the System, Division and Federation Bylaws have provisions that you MUST remain in GOOD STANDING during the term of office. Under the BMWED Bylaws GOOD STANDING is the payment of dues on or before the last day of the month in which they were due (Applicable System Federation/ Division Bylaws).

Note: These questions and answers are intended to provide general guidance on issues related to eligibility to nominate, vote and run for office within the BMWED. They do not constitute an official interpretation of any provision of the BMWED Bylaws or the IBT Constitution. Requests for interpretation of the BMWED Bylaws or the IBT Constitution must be submitted in writing to the BMWED President or the Teamster General President respectively.

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!





Freddie N. Simpson

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



As I write this column, a faction of radical extremists in the House of Representatives have shut down the United States government. Just as they did in 1995 and '96, the Republican Party has concocted a harebrained

scheme to hold the country's finances hostage in order to reverse the outcome of national elections they lost. Hopefully, by the time you hold this BMWED Journal in your hands, sanity will have been restored, and federal workers will be back on the job, but that's impossible to predict.

In this latest go-around, House Republicans are defunding the government in the hopes that President Obama and Senate Democrats will abandon Obamacare. By shuttering the government over the issue, Republicans are anteing up in a poker game with Democrats, despite knowing that they're holding a losing hand. It strikes me as an exceptionally poor strategy, but we'll have to see if the president and a Democratically-controlled Senate calls their bluff.

The GOP's resistance to Obamacare is related primarily to their role as the gatekeepers of corporate interest. The problem for Republicans this time is that it appears that health insurance companies have finally gone too far. By fattening their pockets on the sick and dying at every turn, health insurance CEOs, directors, and board members have made their own bed, and with Obama's reelection in 2012, are now forced to lie in it. They cannot outrun the

public sentiment this time — their greed has outpaced their stride.

Think about this for a minute. According to The New York Times, almost two-thirds of uninsured Americans have a full-time job. An additional 16 percent are employed part-time. Now, your health insurance is provided to you (and your family) through your employment on the railroad, at a small cost, thanks to a collectively bargained agreement between your carrier and your labor union, the BMWED. This benefit was not given to you by the railroad out of kindness and Christmas cheer. It was negotiated out of them on your behalf. They did not want to give it up willingly. Often, Unions made slight concessions in wages or other areas in order to keep health insurance costs low.

Before conservative politicians started their steady march to Union bust the country, snatching the power from the working class and handing it over to the corporate tycoons, most companies offered reasonable-cost health plans to their employees. As Union jobs have disappeared, so have company-sponsored health insurance plans. Insurance companies have become audacious in their fees, charging astronomical amounts for everything from routine office visits to surgical procedures to prescrip-

tion medicines. Company bosses, no longer keen on bankrolling health plans, have transferred the burden onto their workers, who frequently have no collective recourse. With increasingly stagnant wages, these outrageous health insurance premiums are unaffordable for the working man.

Now, the Obamacare legislation is imperfect. Thanks to politics muddying up the process, the law has pages of complicated provisions that are difficult to decipher. But it is clear that it will improve the lives of millions of Americans, while providing stiff competition to health insurance providers to drive down the costs of coverage. The New York Times reports that 28 million Americans will obtain insurance under Obamacare. Of these, eight million earn more than twice the poverty level of \$47,100 for a family of four. These are not lazy, unmotivated bums looking for a handout. They are hardworking men and women who need a safety net for the inevitability of getting sick.

It used to be that Unions took care of negotiating these safety nets out of employers, but our influence has been undermined by politicians elected to serve corporate greed. However, poll after poll shows the majority of Americans favor barring insurance companies

from denying health insurance because of someone's medical history or pre-existing condition. Voters favor letting children stay on parents' plans until they are 26, as Obamacare allows. Perhaps finally, the health insurance companies and corporate big wigs have dug their own grave, for which they may not be able to escape. They are looking for Republicans to bail them out of the hole. So far, the GOP's strategy for doing so is to bankrupt the government.

As I type this, the Federal Railroad Administration, OSHA, and National Mediation Board websites are suspended upon further notice. I don't need to tell you that these are governmental agencies that we as railroaders utilize nearly every single day. Amtrak says it can continue normal operations for a while, relying on ticket revenue, but will suffer long term without government funding.

Unions used to play the role in securing affordable health benefits for millions of working Americans, and perhaps if we are fortunate, they will do so again someday. But in the meantime, it appears as if Uncle Sam will have to come to the rescue. While that may not be the best-case scenario, it's definitely not the worst. Just ask the tens of millions of Americans who are uninsured and underemployed.

A Vice President Speaks



David Tanner
Western Region
Vice President

For Union families, scholarships are there for the picking

During a presentation in Atlanta this summer, IBT Executive Assistant to the President Willie Smith surprised many by revealing that his biggest obstacle in awarding Teamster scholarships is — get this — a lack of applicants.

"I would love to see more applicants. Sometimes, finding enough applications in the pile is the hardest part of giving away the scholarships," Smith told the crowd at the Teamsters National Black Caucus. "I need you to spread the word."

We all know that money doesn't grow on trees. But, what if it did and we failed to pick it? That would be foolish, especially in these times, when the cost of education is rocketing to new heights while wages for the middle and lower-middle class are stagnating. *The New York Times* recently reported the cost of tuition to public universities is up 300 percent since 1980. And that's not even counting the astronomical cost of private universities.

I don't need to tell you this, but your wages have not risen at that same meteoric level. That's why it should come with very little surprise that, according to the Wall Street Journal, one in five college graduates are financially unable to repay their student loans. Simply put, their salaries don't match the cost of their college degrees.

The price tag on higher education is an increasingly high financial hurdle that the average American family cannot cross without assistance. In a United States that is quickly becoming a lopsided country of the

VP Speaks, Continued on Page 19



A Matter of Fairness



James P. Hoffa, General President, International Brotherhood of Teamsters

In a few short decades, our country and our world have changed dramatically. In the last 30 years, America has gone from the world's biggest creditor nation to the one holding the world's largest debt. Unfair trade agreements have gutted American manufacturing and other industries. Millions of good jobs have left our shores or disappeared entirely. And the gap between the rich and poor has widened as our middle class has been stuck footing the bill for corporate welfare, bank bailouts and other bad policies that protect big business and punish working families.

Multi-national corporations have never been bigger and more influential in Washington than they are today. Companies like Wal-Mart and McDonald's are multiplying as are concerns about fair wages and

working conditions. Big Teamster employers like UPS, First Student, ABInBev and many others also have a global reach and as big business becomes more international, labor must also keep pace by coordinating and partnering with other unions on a worldwide scale. What is needed is a beefed-up global labor presence where unions work together on behalf of all workers.

Agreements like the one I signed last month on behalf of the Change to Win coalition with an 8 million-member labor federation in Brazil, called UGT, are the future of the union movement. As part of our alliance, we agreed to join together to increase workers' rights and to conduct exchanges to learn from one another's practices. We also agreed to support each other's campaigns and to link up where appropriate to fight for workers.

We all want our workers to be able to continue working in safe conditions all while receiving an honest wage. We also realize that trade agreements like the TPP and TTIP could lead to more union jobs flowing out of our borders to places where children toil in sweatshops for meager wages. No workers benefit from that arrangement.

Governments increasingly don't have workers' backs. But you know who does? Other union workers! It doesn't matter whether we are from the U.S. or another nation.

What it is about, however, is fairness. And that is something union men and women know something about.

Steven V. Powers retires from Arbitration Office

BMWED Assistant to the President Steven V. Powers retired this October from his supervisory role in the Chicago Arbitration Office, culminating a railroad and Union career of nearly 40 years.

Brother Powers started work in the track department on the former C&NW Railroad in 1974 and held various positions as Trackman, Machine Operator, Assistant Foreman, Foreman and Track Inspector. In 1981, he was appointed by former BMWED President O.M. Berge to work in the Chicago office as a staff assistant, charged with preparing submissions for the National Railroad Adjustment Board. In 1986, he was appointed to his latest position of Assistant to the President.

Among the many highlights of his BMWED career, Brother Powers cites his involvement with national bargaining in the early to mid-1990s, when he and others helped obtain a recommendation from Presidential Emergency Board 229. That PEB restored some measure of balance lost a few years earlier, Brother Powers said, especially the implementation of a National Travel Allowance for BMWED railroaders and the limitation of unpaid travel time for production gangs to 30 minutes each way.

His work in arbitrations "number in the dozens," including triumphs in protecting our work from contractors both on the Union Pacific and CSX roads, resulting in over \$20 million in claim payments to our members.

"An old Union organizer in Chicago once told me that there are two kinds of power in the world—the power of money and the power of people. The corporations have more money, but we have a lot



more people," Brother Powers said.

"As long as we maintain solidarity among the members of our Union and the Labor Movement, I am confident that we can use our people power to continue the advancement of the interests of working people everywhere."

Brother Powers wishes to thank his wife Marcia for her "unwavering support" during his career, especially for her patience when his work with the BMWED demanded considerable time away from their home and two daughters. "She never complained and kept our home and children on course when I devoted my time to the Union," he said.

"Brother Steve has been an incredibly hard-working and truly devoted member of this Brotherhood for many years," BMWED President Freddie Simpson said. "His immense wealth of knowledge and unique skills will be greatly missed in Chicago. He was a smart, able and dedicated asset to our membership and deserves our very best wishes upon his retirement."

The BMWED extends congratulations to Brother Powers and wishes him a long and happy retirement.



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.

Around the Brotherhood

BMWED Begins National Bargaining Preparations

BMWED General Chairmen and representatives from all of the major freight railroads met in Chicago, Illinois on September 18, 2013. The meeting was scheduled by National Division President Freddie Simpson for the purpose of beginning bargaining strategies for the next round of national freight railroad negotiations.

The meeting was a follow up to discussions held on the subject of bargaining strategies during a BMWED officer's meeting held in Nashville, TN in July.



Consolidated Rail System Federation Honors Retirees

The Consolidated Rail System Federation held their Convention in Canandaigua, New York on September 16 and 17, 2013. During the proceedings a number of CRSF officers were honored for their contributions to the CRSF. Each were honored with a testimonial recognizing them for their dedication and hard work on behalf of the membership prior to their retirements. Those honored were Assistant General Chairman/Secretary-Treasurer John Giblin, Assistant General Chairman Paul Beard, Assistant General Chairman Tom Mulford, Assistant General Chairman Rich McClean, and Joint Protective Board Member Rick Root.



John Giblin (right) receives an engraved BMWED retirement pocket watch from General Chairman T. J. Nemeth, assistant General Chairman Mike Flowers looks on from the podium.

Allied Federation Local Lodges Convene Regular Quarterly Meetings

Allied Federation Local Lodge 1035 held its regular quarterly meeting August 17, 2013, in Evansville, Indiana. General Chairman Dennis Albers was on hand to share information and discuss issues with the members.



Local Lodge 1035 members take time out for a photo (Dennis Albers far left).

Allied Federation Local Lodge 1349 held their regular quarterly meeting September 7, 2013, in North Vernon, Indiana. During the meeting General Chairman Dennis Albers presented retirees David (Joe) Palmer and Ray O. Catterton with plaques commemorating their retirement and their many years of membership in the BMWED.



General Chairman Dennis Albers presents awards to David Palmer (left) and David Catterton (right).

Burlington System Division Local Lodge 1049 Convene Regular Quarterly Meeting

Burlington System Division Local Lodge 1049 held their regular Quarterly meeting on June 27, 2013 in Marquette, Michigan. Lodge 1049 members work for the Lake Superior & Ishpeming Railroad.

Both General Chairwoman Staci Moody-Gilbert and Vice General Chairman/Secretary-Treasurer Terry Barrette were on hand to share information and field questions from the members.



Local Lodge 1049 members and guests.

Continued on Page 14



Around the Brotherhood, Continued from Page 13

Burlington System Division Local Lodge 798 Participates in Labor Day Parade

Burlington System Division Local Lodge 798 members participated in the 117th annual Galesburg, Illinois Labor Day Parade. Family members also joined in for the parade. The Galesburg parade is the second longest running parade, second only to the New York parade.

Local Lodge 798 handed out hats and shirts to all those in the BMWED delegation that joined the parade. The delegation led with the BMWED banner and the children passed out candy to the parade goers. Steven Clewell, Dale Hopping and Mark Hartman drove vehicles for the parade.



Local Lodge 798 members and family.

Brother Hartman was driving his fully restored 1963 Impala Station Wagon.

The BLET and the Galesburg Teamster Local also represented the IBT in the parade.

BMWED Delegation Joins March on Washington

On August 28, 2013, members of the BMWED Committee on Diversity joined thousands of others and attended the celebration commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington.

Among the many speakers was President Obama who offered, "The test was not and never has been whether the doors of opportunity are cracked a bit wider for a few. It was whether our economic system provides a fair shot for the many — for the black custodian and the white steelworker, the immigrant dishwasher and the Native American veteran. To win that battle, to answer that call, this remains our great unfinished business."



Left to right , Ramiro Ramirez, Marcus Hood, Al Mixon, Andrew Shelton, Tim Hoffman, and John Mozinski (front).

Teamster Women's Conference Convenes in New Orleans, Louisiana

The Teamster Women's Conference held their annual meetings in New Orleans, Louisiana September 19 - 21, 2013. A delegation from the BMWED were in attendance throughout the Conference and attended a number of workshops.



BMWED Conducts Local Lodge Officer Seminar

The BMWED National Division conducted another Local Lodge Officer Seminar in Minneapolis, Minnesota August 27 - 28, 2013. The Seminar included a full day of classes in separate venues for Local Chairmen, Secretary-Treasurers, and Presidents, and a half day joint presentation.



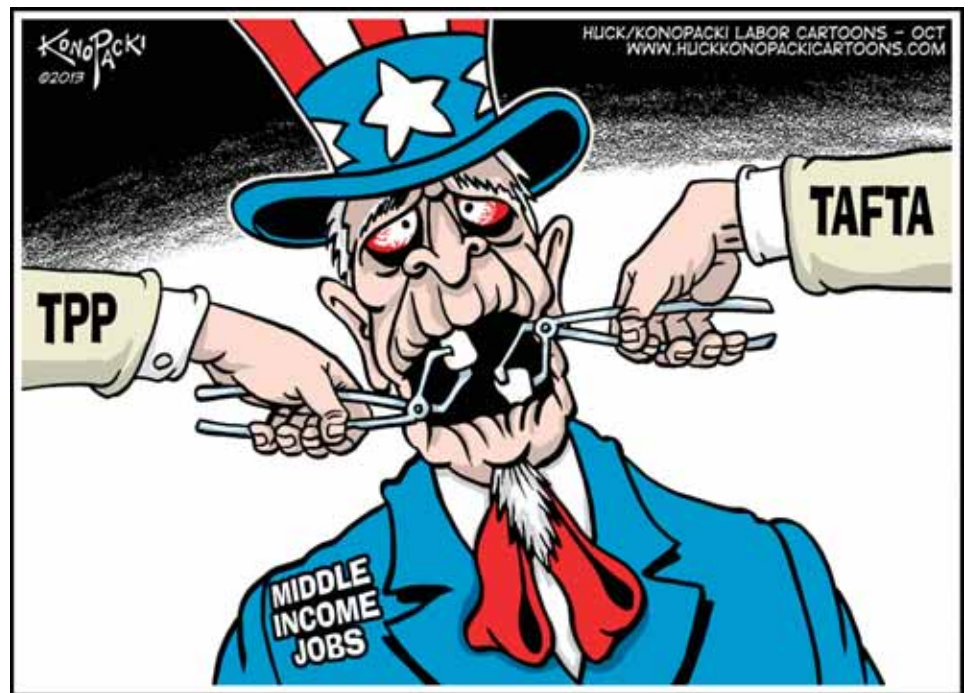
National Division Auditor Jason Richert gives an explanation during the Secretary-Treasurer's seminar while Auditor Bill Martinko looks on.



BMWED Director of Legislative Affairs Charlie Hogue speaks to the Local Lodge officers on day two of the seminar.

Continued on Page 24

You can now visit the BMWED on *Facebook* at **Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes**, and follow us on *Twitter* at **BMWEDIBT**.



A Letter from the Passenger Rail Labor Bargaining Coalition

Amtrak Contract Resolution through Binding Arbitration

On October 15, 2013 the participating General Chairmen of the Passenger Rail Labor Bargaining Coalition, which includes the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division of the - IBT and the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen - AFL-CIO, sent a letter to all BMWED and BRS members employed by Amtrak. The letter reads as follows:

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We are pleased to inform you that we have an agreement that will resolve our contract struggle which has gone on for over three years. We have agreed to binding arbitration of this dispute. Under the terms of the arbitration agreement, the dispute was supposed to be resolved and a new contract in place by January 1, 2014. However, because of the scheduling problems of the neutrals who have agreed to resolve our dispute the hearings will be on January 6,7,13,14,15,16 and 17, 2014, with an award to be issued several weeks later. The delay in the process was ordered over the strenuous objections of the Union. This matter will be resolved and a new contract will be in place by March 1, 2014, or earlier.

Arbitration is final and binding and the decision of the three neutrals is not subject to appeal or membership ratification. We will have the very best experts and lawyers arguing on our behalf. Our position is that we are entitled to the terms of our national freight agreement, which has provided the pattern for our settlements on the Amtrak property for the last forty years. Amtrak will be arguing for some version of the on property settlements that they have reached with other Unions in the last two years.

The three neutrals who will hear our case are Chairman Ira Jaffe, and board members Herbert Fishgold and Shyan Das. All are well credentialed, and respected,

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Bags



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neutrals that have extensive knowledge in Railway Labor Act arbitration and/or Presidential Emergency Boards. They will have the authority to settle the contract dispute which began on January 1, 2010, and establish wage increases, health and welfare benefit levels, health and welfare cost sharing, work rules and back pay. Many members have asked if we will receive back pay, and if the retirees will also receive part of our new contract. It will be the position of the Union that we are entitled to full back pay based upon our

national freight agreement and that retirees are also entitled to this back pay. In the various agreements that Amtrak has reached with the other Unions they have agreed to full back pay and payment for the retirees. Presumably, they will argue for the same before the arbitration board. If Amtrak does not argue this before the arbitration board then they have a weaker argument. Arbitration is often based upon precedent. If Amtrak strays from its own precedent, the effect will be to make our argument stronger. In the end, all

of these questions will be resolved by the neutrals.

Make no mistake about it, forcing Amtrak to arbitrate this dispute is a big victory for the memberships of our unions. Amtrak is quite content making agreements unless it is on their terms. It was the pressure that the membership placed upon Amtrak management that forced Amtrak to agree to resolve this dispute through binding arbitration.

We will keep you informed as this important process unfolds.

DEATH BENEFIT DEPARTMENT

REPORT OF DEATH BENEFIT CLAIMS PAID DURING JULY AND AUGUST, 2013

NAME	CITY/STATE	LODGE/SYSTEM/RR	D.O.D.
LAWTON CARTER	HOLDENVILLE, OK	1099 AF/LIFE	05/19/13
PATRICK H. CRUZ	SILT, CO	0779 USD/LIFE	04/20/13
JOHN N. FLETCHER	FREMONT, NE	0473 USD/LIFE	07/17/13
ROBERT R. MARTIN	WHITEFISH, MT	1092 BURNOR/LIFE	07/31/13
JOSEPH W. PUGH	ROANOKE, VA	0599 ASF/LIFE	05/03/13
MARVIN M. RICHARDSON	HARRINGTON, DE	3077 PENN/LIFE	03/21/13
CHARLES F. RODGERS	HOMOSASSA, FL	3011 PENN/LIFE	07/16/13
PIERCE S. RUCKER	GUYTON, GA	2067 AF/LIFE	05/24/13
GILBERT D. SCROGGS	SPRINGFIELD, MO	0493 ATSFF/LIFE	04/22/13
RONALD D. THOMPSON	YAKIMA, WA	0325 USD/LIFE	06/22/13

PAID JULY 1, 2013 TO AUGUST 31, 2013	\$ 5,000.00
AMOUNT PREVIOUSLY PAID	\$45,446,307.75
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID TO DATE	\$45,451,307.75
NUMBER OF CLAIMS PAID - 14	

REPORT OF DEATH NOTICES RECEIVED DURING JULY AND AUGUST, 2013

CLARENCE LEESOUTH	BEND, IN	0888	ASF/NS	07/22/13
RAY J. LIES	NEW ROCKFORD, ND	1654	BURNOR/BNSF	06/16/13
LUIS MERCADO	CHICAGO, IL	2857	BURL/NIR	07/15/13

BMWED FILES SAFETY REPORTS WITH NHTSA

Hi-rail Wheel Assemblies May Affect Deployment of Air Bags

Since 2012, the BMWED has become aware of 5 separate hi-rail vehicle accidents where the air bags did not deploy in collisions. These accidents included a mix of on-track and public road collisions at speeds between 15 and 40 MPH involving several different vehicle makes and models. In light of these accidents, BMWED wants to remind occupants of hi-rail equipped vehicles to observe all seatbelt and speed limit laws.

These accidents resulted in one fatality and several injuries to BMWED members employed on various railroads. The common denominator among these 5 accidents where air bags did not deploy was that all of the vehicles were equipped with hi-rail wheel assemblies.

The BMWED Department of Safety filed reports with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) documenting the non-deployment of air bags in these hi-rail equipped vehicles. NHTSA is an agency within the Department of Transportation whose longstanding

mission is to reduce crash-related injuries and fatalities while ensuring the highest standards of safety on the nation's roadways.

NHTSA personnel reviewed the complaints filed by BMWED and held several conference calls with BMWED's Department of Safety during their investigation, however the exact cause of the non-deployments could not be determined based upon available information. BMWED and NHTSA were also unable to gain access to the vehicles in question, further hampering the investigation into this matter. NHTSA did contact one of the leading manufacturers of hi-rail equipment and learned that the manufacturer has not conducted testing or evaluation of air bag functionality in hi-rail equipped vehicles.

In general, airbags systems are designed to deploy at a deployment threshold of about 15-20 MPH in a frontal crash into a solid barrier. However, the airbag deployment threshold is somewhat variable depending on the "stiffness" of the object hit, impact speed, and other factors. Low

speed frontal collisions which occur below the designed deployment threshold often do not trigger activation of the airbags. However, frontal collisions occurring at or above the deployment threshold should generally result in air bag activation.

NHTSA and BMWED have concluded that the installation of after-market hi-rail gear may affect the functionality of the airbag system. However, why and to what extent the installation of hi-rail gear affects the air bag system is currently unknown. In numerous accidents involving hi-rail equipped vehicles, accident records reviewed by BMWED indicate that the airbags deployed as intended. In others, they did not deploy.

BMWED wants to alert drivers and occupants of hi-rail vehicles of this concern regarding the deployment of airbags and encourage all drivers to observe speed limits, always wear your seatbelts as required by law, and report any issues of non-deploying airbags in hi-rail equipped vehicles to the BMWED Department of Safety at 202-508-6449 or Ricki@bmwe.org.

Railroad Unemployment and Sickness Benefits to Increase Due to Adjustment in Sequestration Rate

Beginning October 1, 2013, the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will reduce railroad unemployment and sickness insurance benefits by 7.2 percent due to federal budget cuts first implemented in March 2013. Since that time, these benefits had been reduced by 9.2 percent.

The adjusted reduction amount is based on revised projections of benefit claims and payments under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act. It will remain in effect through September 30, 2014, the end of the fiscal year. Reductions in future fiscal years, should they occur, will be calculated based on applicable law.

The 7.2 percent reduction in railroad unemployment and sickness benefits will reduce the maximum daily benefit rate from \$68.00 to \$63.10. As a result, the total maximum amount payable in a 2-week period with 10 days of unemployment will drop from \$680.00 to \$631.04.

Certain railroad sickness benefits are also subject to regular tier I railroad retirement taxes, resulting in a further reduction of 7.65 percent. Applying the 7.2 percent reduction to these sickness benefits will result in a daily benefit rate of \$58.27, with a maximum 2-week total of \$582.77.

Under the previous 9.2 percent reduction, the maximum 2-week unemployment benefit was \$617.44, while the maximum for sickness benefits subject to tier I payroll taxes was \$570.21.

These reductions are required under the Budget Control Act of 2011 and a subsequent sequestration order filed by President Obama to implement the mandated cuts. The law exempted social security benefits, as well as railroad retirement, survivor, and disability benefits paid by the RRB, from sequestration.

In fiscal year 2012, the RRB paid \$11.3 billion in retirement and survivor benefits to about 573,000 beneficiaries, and net unemployment-sickness benefits of \$88.5 million to about 26,000 claimants.

Legal Aid Program List

Below is an updated list of the approved attorneys in the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division's Legal Aid Program, who can be called on for advice and assistance when needed in case of on-the-job personal injury or death.

Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division (BMWED) members who are injured on the job, or the dependents of members killed as a result of such injuries, should ascertain their rights and protections under the Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA) before attempting any settlement with a railroad company.

Under the Legal Aid Program, in cases of personal injury or death while employed on a railroad, a BMWED member or his or her family survivors have access to competent legal counsel in making claims under the FELA.

The BMWED-designated legal aid attorneys are well qualified to handle cases under the FELA.

LAW FIRMS APPROVED TO HANDLE CASES FOR MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYEES UNDER THE FEDERAL EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT:

Blunt & Slocumb, Ltd.

60 Edwardsville Professional Park
P. O. Box 373
Edwardsville, IL 62025
TELEPHONE: (618) 656-7744
FAX: 618-656-7849
TOLL FREE NATIONAL:
(800) 323-5538
www.bluntlaw.com

Daniel J. Downes, P.C.

101 North Wacker Drive
Suite 200
Chicago, IL 60606
TELEPHONE: (312) 372-8282
FAX: 312-372-8560
TOLL FREE: (800) 624-2121 - Illinois
(888) 753-0533 - Georgia
dan@dandownes.com

Hubbell Law Firm, L.L.C.

Union Station
30 West Pershing Road, Suite 350
Kansas City, MO 64108-2463
TELEPHONE: (816) 221-5666
FAX: 816-221-5259
TOLL FREE NATIONAL: (800) 821-5257
www.hubbellfirm.com

Ingebritson & Associates, P.A.

Attorneys at Law
IDS Center
80 S. 8th Street, Suite 2030
Minneapolis, MN 55402
TELEPHONE: (612) 340-8290
FAX: 612-342-2990
TOLL FREE NATIONAL: (800) 282-6393
www.ingebritson.com

Jones, Granger, Tramuto & Halstead

P. O. Box 4340
Houston, TX 77210-4340
TELEPHONE: (713) 668-0230
FAX: 713-956-7139
TOLL FREE TX ONLY: (800) 392-0620
NATIONAL: (800) 231-3359
www.jonesgranger.com
weldon@wgranger.com

The Moody Law Firm

500 Crawford Street, Suite 300
Portsmouth, VA 23704
TELEPHONE: (757) 393-4093
FAX: 757-397-7257
TOLL FREE NATIONAL: (800) 368-1033
(800) 368-1033 - Florida
(888) 358-6894 - Georgia
www.moodyrllaw.com

Pratt & Tobin, P.C.

P. O. Box 179
Route 111 at Airline Drive
East Alton, IL 62024
TELEPHONE: (618) 259-8011
TOLL FREE (800) 851-5562

Rossi Vucinovich Flaskamp P.C.

1000 Second Avenue, Suite 1610
Seattle, WA 98104
TELEPHONE: (425) 646-8003
FAX: 425-646-8004
TOLL FREE: (866) 357-RAIL (7245)
(800) 325-4014 - Colorado
(866) 900-3352 - Minnesota
www.rcvpc.com

OFFICIAL NATIONAL DIVISION CREDENTIAL Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division

International Brotherhood of Teamsters

The bearer of this credential is authorized as a representative of approved counsel by the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division to consult and investigate accidents involving death or injury to our members. The credential expires on January 1, 2014 unless revoked.

Issued to _____

Title _____

Firm _____

Signed _____

Freddie N. Simpson/President

Perry K. Geller, Sr./Secretary-Treasurer

Thornton & Naumes, L.L.P.

100 Summer Street, 30th Floor
Boston, MA 02110
TELEPHONE: (617) 720-1333
FAX: 617-720-2445
TOLL FREE NATIONAL:
(800) 431-4600
www.tenlaw.com

***Note:** Primary office location.

Why Choose A BMWED-Designated FELA Attorney?

In this day of specialization, most lawyers, like most doctors and other professionals, tend to specialize. If you have tax problems, you go to a lawyer who knows the tax laws. If you have family matters to be handled, you go to a lawyer who knows the laws about wills, estates, probate, divorce, etc. That is why, if you're injured on the railroad, you need to go to a lawyer who knows the Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA).

FELA became law in 1908. Under FELA, an injured railroad employee or his/her family survivors have the right to recover damages in court (state or federal). They have the right to a jury trial, which can award damages based upon the railroad's negligence that resulted in the employee's injury or death.

Choosing a Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division-designated FELA attorney is important because, as one court case stated, "injured workers or their families often fall prey ... to persuasive claims adjusters eager to gain a quick and cheap settle-

ment for their railroad employers, or to a lawyer either not competent to try these lawsuits against the able railroad counsel or too willing to settle a case for a quick dollar."

Since most people don't deal with lawyers except in a time of need, the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way

Employees Division has a long-standing policy of evaluating FELA law firms. Using established guidelines, the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division chooses the best to be on its approved or designated list, which is printed twice yearly in the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division Journal.

Criteria used for evaluating FELA law firms include:

Must have an established record of successful litigation experience.

Must furnish National Division with a summary of cases handled (insofar as such disclosure is consistent with "attorney-client" privilege).

Must charge a contingency fee of no more than 25 percent.

Must give injured members free advice in connection with their injury and render free assistance to them in related matters.

Because the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division recognizes the importance of competent and fair legal counsel for its members, it regularly monitors the activities of the law firms on its list and makes changes when needed.

If you do not have a copy of the approved list of attorneys when you need it, just call your system division or federation office and they will give you names and other necessary information. In addition, all approved attorneys are issued official Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division credentials each year. If an attorney contacts you, be sure to ask for his credential.



LOCAL LODGES

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

Call (248) 662-2660
extension 636.



The following 4th Quarter Safety Alert was originally issued by the Fatality Analysis of Maintenance-of-Way and Signal Employees (FAMES) committee in September 2012. We are republishing the Safety Alert as we enter the 4th Quarter of 2013 to raise safety awareness among BMWED members in light of these historical trends. Please be safe out there Brothers and Sisters!



September 17, 2012
(Reissued October 1, 2013)

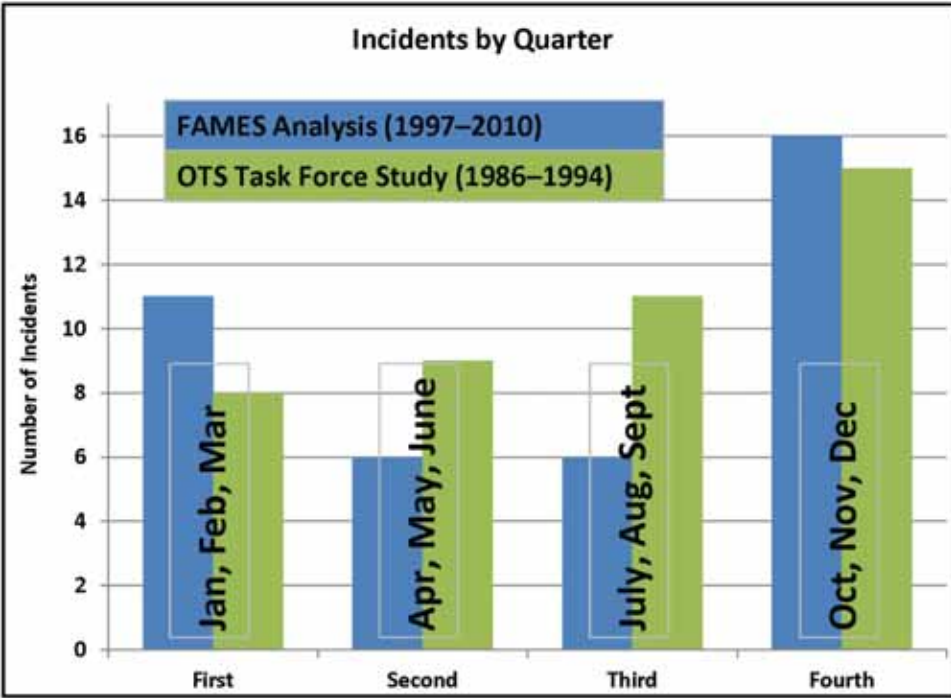
Fourth Quarter Safety Alert

Twenty-one years of data shows 4th Quarter spike in fatal roadway worker incidents

A comparison of roadway worker fatality data over a span of 21 years (1986–1994 and 1997–2010) indicates that the highest number of roadway worker incidents occur in the 4th Quarter.

Roadway worker fatality data reviewed by FAMES for the 8-year period between 1986–1994 (pre-RWP rule) indicates 43 fatal roadway worker incidents. Of these 43 fatal incidents, **34.8 percent (15 of 43) occurred in the 4th Quarter (October–December).**

FAMES also reviewed 39 fatal roadway worker incidents which occurred between 1997-2010 (post RWP rule). Of these 39 incidents, **41 percent (16 of 39) occurred in the 4th Quarter.**



Although the FAMES Committee has not been able to determine the reasons for the historical 4th Quarter spike in roadway worker fatalities, the evidence is undeniable and alarming.

In recognition of these historical trends, FAMES takes this opportunity to remind all roadway workers to be hyper-vigilant with regard to the application of on-track safety protection, especially during the 4th Quarter. If you see someone fouling a track without on-track safety protection, say something to them. If you have concerns regarding the application of on-track safety at the job site, invoke your legally protected right to make a good faith challenge and remain clear of the tracks until the challenge has been resolved.

Working together, and watching out for one another, we can save lives!

Dedication: The FAMES Committee dedicates its efforts to all roadway workers who have lost their lives in the performance of duty and to the families, loved ones, and coworkers they have left behind.

Mission Statement: The Mission of the Fatality Analysis of Maintenance-of-way Employees and Signalmen (FAMES) Committee is to analyze all fatalities and selected related incidents in order to make recommendations to reduce the risk of future occurrences and eliminate fatalities to roadway workers.

What good is a Union?

Union members frequently hear from some that unions are outdated and no longer necessary. Usually this comes from non-union members who genuinely don't know any better, or right wing corporate types and their cronies who have a vested interest in seeing the demise of labor unions.

Below are just some of the reasons unions are important and necessary, and specifically why the BMWED is so important to its members:

BMWED Negotiated Benefits

- Right of Representation
- Protection Against Discrimination
- Rules Agreements
- Eight-Hour Day
- Overtime Pay
- Retirement Benefits
- Unemployment Benefits
- Sickness Benefits
- Paid Vacations
- Forty-Hour Week
- Union Shop
- Holiday Pay
- Health Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Accidental Death, Dismemberment and Loss of Sight Benefits
- Improved Wage Rates
- Job Security
- Travel Time and Away-from-Home Expenses
- Off-Track Vehicle Accident Insurance Coverage
- Jury Duty Pay
- Check-Off of Dues
- Supplemental Sickness Benefits
- Dental Insurance
- Early Retiree Major Medical Benefits
- Bereavement Leave
- Personal Leave
- Safety Legislation and Regulation
- Vision Care

In addition, substantial improvements in hourly rates of pay for our members have been negotiated by our Brotherhood and are reflected in the average hourly rates set forth below in three-year increments:

2015 - 28.62	1994 - 14.40	1973 - 4.68
2012 - 25.98	1991 - 13.62	1970 - 3.28
2009 - 23.82	1988 - 13.09	1967 - 2.83
2006 - 21.28	1985 - 12.02	1964 - 2.46
2003 - 19.10	1982 - 10.80	1961 - 2.28
2000 - 17.93	1979 - 7.92	1958 - 2.08
1997 - 16.06	1976 - 6.02	





VP Speaks, Continued from Page 11

“haves and have nots,” it is imperative that Unions nationwide help our Brothers and Sisters in the strive for access to education. We cannot stand idly by while education — deemed so rightfully essential that it is compelled by the state through kindergarten to high school — eventually becomes a luxury for the elite few if it’s dare taken beyond the arbitrarily-set grade 12.

As a BMWED Vice President, I am proud to promote all the college scholarship opportunities available to our membership and I hope that everyone with educational aspirations takes the opportunity to apply. Along with the Teamster and BMWED scholarships, award-based scholarships are also available through the Union Plus Scholarship Fund, which has given out \$3.5 million of tuition assistance to working families since 1992.

It is a shame that interest in our scholarships seems to be relatively low. I would love to see intense competition for the awards, and for those best and brightest of our membership to continue on to higher education, hopefully with the intention of helping to further the rights of the workers and the strength of Unions.

And while it is vital that we encourage higher education, it is important to also fight for respectable-paying jobs. Because without jobs that create earning power, obtaining a costly college degree and acquiring the student loan debt that accompanies it will become unsustainable. Like I wrote above, one out of five college grads cannot afford their loan payments because either they can’t find a job or the one they’re working doesn’t pay enough. It is likely safe to assume that the many of the others who are paying back their debt are doing so by postponing other goals, such as home ownership or having children. The often referenced “American Dream” is slipping from the Middle Class’ grasp.

You’ll hear voices — mostly from the elite crowd — arguing that if college falls outside your financial constraints, perhaps it is not prudent for you to pursue the education. If a family cannot budget to send its children to college, maybe they should plan better or search out alternatives, they will say. To that I say, “malarkey.”

A college education is an aspiration that should be attainable for all, and not just a privilege bestowed upon those fortunate enough to be born into a wealthy family. We should not have to worry about being priced out of our dreams.

For info about available Teamster scholarships, visit the website: www.teamster.org/content/scholarships or email scholarship@teamster.org
Union Plus scholarship information is available at: www.unionplus.org/college-education-financing.

See the accompanying chart for info about the BMWED scholarship or visit: www.bmwe.org/news/2013/Scholarship_Application_Packet2013.pdf

BMWED Scholarship Information

The BMWED annual scholarship is designed to encourage and recognize the achievements of BMWED members and their dependents and assist them in obtaining a college education, with preference given to those pursuing the study of labor-related subjects.

Two \$2,000 BMWED Scholarships will be awarded in November 2013.

Applicants must be a member or a dependent of a member of the BMWED. Dependents can be high school seniors enrolled or planning to enroll in an accredited college or university, or full-time undergraduates or graduate students enrolled at an accredited college or university. Members should be enrolled as undergraduates or graduate students at an accredited college or university.

To apply for a BMWED scholarship, submit via **mail** (faxes and emails will not be accepted) to *BMWED Scholarship, Attn: Rick Inclima, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, 25 Louisiana Ave., NW, 7th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20001* the following:

- Completed application form
- Most recent academic transcript (if applicable)
- College entrance examination (ACT and/or SAT) scores (if applicable)
- List of extra-curricular, community service and Union activities
- A statement of 300 words or less written by applicant outlining applicant’s employment history and career goals
- A statement of 300 words or less written by applicant explaining how the BMEWD has impacted applicant’s life.

Deadline is Oct. 31, 2013. Any questions regarding the BMWED Scholarship or the application procedures may be forwarded via email to Director of Safety Rick Inclima at Ricki@bmwe.org or call 202-508-6449.

Note: Pursuant to IBT policy, delivery of any package or mail by non-union carriers will not be accepted by the IBT shipping/receiving department. Therefore, to assure delivery please mail through the United States Postal Service (USPS) or the United Parcel Service (UPS).

Apple Setup Instructions

From your Apple device, open the App Store, single click the Search button that is in the bottom, right corner. At the top of the screen, type “rss” in the search field and click Search. Scroll down the results until you get to XFeed RSS Reader and click it. You will be presented with more info on the application. Single click the Free button so it changes to say Install. Single click the Install button so the app is added to your phone. Once finished, click the icon to start the app. Single click the Plus button at the bottom of the screen and type <http://www.bmwe.org/rss.xml> in the feed URL box. Single click Search so the feed can be found.

Android Setup Instructions

Open the Market. Single click the Search button in the upper, right hand corner. At the top of the screen, type rss in the search field and click Search. Scroll down until you get to “gReader (Google Reader / RSS)” and click it. Single click the Download button. Single click the “Accept & download” button. Once downloaded click the “Open” button. Select your Google account and click “Allow.” Single click the + in the upper right-hand corner and type <http://www.bmwe.org/rss.xml> in the feed URL box. Select Search. Once the feed is found click the + sign to add the feed.



Scan me for instructions to download the app for BMWED news



Important Announcement for Medicare Eligible BMWED Members and Retirees

Spending in the U.S. for prescription drugs was \$259.1 billion in 2010, and is projected to double over the next decade.¹ The TEAMStar Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Program can help you with those costs.

If you are a BMWED retiree, spouse or dependent of a BMWED retiree and entitled to Medicare Part A and/or enrolled in Medicare Part B, you are eligible for the TEAMStar Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Program (PDP). You are entitled to this program regardless of your health history or the drugs you are currently taking.

The TEAMStar Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Program is a voluntary Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Program that meets the federal government requirements for creditable coverage. It is not available to the general public and is designed to help Medicare eligible BMWED members, retirees and their spouses reduce their prescription drug costs and insure them against high prescription drug expenses in the future. This program was introduced in 2006 and thousands of Teamster retirees have chosen to enroll during the program's first seven years.

The enrollment period for TEAMStar Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Program runs from October 15, 2013 to December 7, 2013. We hope you will take advantage of this affordable prescription drug plan that enables BMWED

members to save as much money as possible.

You can get more detailed information and also register for the program at: www.teamstarpartd.com or call 1-866-524-4173.

¹Keehan, SP et al. 2012. National Health Expenditure Projections: Modest Annual Growth Until Coverage Expands and Economic Growth Accelerates. Health Affairs 31(7), Exhibit 2. Online.




Open Enrollment Period Begins October 15, 2013!



The International Brotherhood of Teamsters is proud to announce the open enrollment period for the TEAMStar Medicare Part D Program. This annual open enrollment period will begin on October 15, 2013 and end on December 7, 2013.

Teamster retirees and spouses who are currently enrolled in Medicare Parts A and/or B qualify for TEAMStar Medicare Part D coverage. Enrollment packets will be arriving in the mail soon. If you didn't receive an enrollment packet or need another one, please call us and we will send you one. Don't wait! The open enrollment period is for a limited time.

Enjoy the following TEAMStar Part D Program benefits:

- **Competitive union group rates** – TEAMStar Medicare Part D is not available to the general public. The rates and benefits are set by your union.
- **Union Preferred Pricing** – certain Preferred Generic drugs are available for as low as \$2 at a Union Preferred Pharmacy.
- **Coverage Options** – three unique plans that offer different levels of security to Teamsters.
- **Coverage through the donut hole** – if you select the Platinum Plan you can get coverage for most generics at a low copay after you get to the Coverage Gap.

To get additional information or an enrollment packet, visit our website at www.teamstarpartd.com or call 1-877-577-3880.

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Centenarian

"Happy Birthday" wishes to the following BMWED Retiree who recently celebrated his 100th birthday:

Enrique Padilla

A Buffalo, New York resident, Brother Padilla celebrated his 100th birthday on August 15, 2013. Prior to his retirement in 1972 he worked for the Penn Central Company as a Trackman.

The BMWED extends its sincere best wishes. Happy Birthday!

What to do if Injured on the Job

- Ask to be transported to the nearest hospital immediately
- Call your union representative as soon as possible
- Notify the attending physician that he is not to discuss your medical treatment with anyone but you and do not sign a release of information permitting the physician/hospital to give information to the railroad
- Do not allow management officials into the examining room

After Treatment

- Ask to fill out an accident report
- Fill out the report according to your union representative's advice
- Ask for an immediate copy of the completed accident report
- When questioned by management refer to your initial answers on the accident report and do not fill out a second accident report

If you feel your reporting or suffering an injury or accident made you subject of harassment or retaliation by a railroad manager, you may be entitled to protection under the Federal Railroad Safety Act (FRSA) 49 U.S.C. Section 20109 and entitled to damages.

Also, BMWED members who are injured on the job should contact BMWED Designated Legal Council and ascertain their rights and protections under the Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA) prior to attempting a settlement with a railroad claim agent.

See additional Fact Sheet on page 22.

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 www.bmwed.org, or send your name and email address to dyack@bmwe.org, along with a request to be added to the BMWED News Alert list.

OSHA[®] FactSheet

Whistleblower Protection for Railroad Workers

Individuals working for railroad carriers are protected from retaliation for reporting potential safety or security violations to their employers or to the government.

On August 3, 2007, the *Federal Railroad Safety Act (FRSA)*, 49 U.S.C. §20109, was amended by *The Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act* (Public Law 110-53) to transfer authority for railroad carrier worker whistleblower protections to OSHA and to include new rights, remedies and procedures. On October 16, 2008, the *Rail Safety Improvement Act* (Public Law 110-432) again amended FRSA, to specifically prohibit discipline of employees for requesting medical treatment or for following medical treatment orders.

Covered Employees

Under FRSA, an employee of a railroad carrier or a contractor or subcontractor is protected from retaliation for reporting certain safety and security violations.

Protected Activity

If your employer is covered under FRSA, it may not discharge you or in any other manner retaliate against you because you provided information to, caused information to be provided to, or assisted in an investigation by a federal regulatory or law enforcement agency, a member or committee of Congress, or your company about an alleged violation of federal laws and regulations related to railroad safety and security, or about gross fraud, waste or abuse of funds intended for railroad safety or security. Your employer may not discharge or in any other manner retaliate against you because you filed, caused to be filed, participated in, or assisted in a proceeding under one of these laws or regulations. In addition, you are protected from retaliation for reporting hazardous safety or security conditions, reporting a work-related injury or illness, refusing to work under certain conditions, or refusing to authorize the use of any safety- or security-related equipment, track or structures. You may also be covered if you were perceived as having engaged in the activities described above.

In addition, you are also protected from retaliation (including being brought up on charges in a disciplinary proceeding) or threatened retaliation for

requesting medical or first-aid treatment, or for following orders or a treatment plan of a treating physician.

Adverse Actions

Your employer may be found to have violated FRSA if your protected activity was a contributing factor in its decision to take adverse action against you. Such actions may include:

- Firing or laying off
- Blacklisting
- Demoting
- Denying overtime or promotion
- Disciplining
- Denying benefits
- Failing to hire or rehire
- Intimidation
- Making threats
- Reassignment affecting promotion prospects
- Reducing pay or hours
- Disciplining an employee for requesting medical or first-aid treatment
- Disciplining an employee for following orders or a treatment plan of a treating physician
- Forcing an employee to work against medical advice

Deadline for Filing a Complaint

Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged adverse action occurred.

How to File a Complaint

A worker, or his or her representative, who believes that he or she has been retaliated against in violation of this statute may file a complaint with OSHA. The complaint should be filed with the OSHA office responsible for enforcement activities in the geographic area where the worker lives or was employed, but may be filed with any OSHA officer or employee. For more information, call your nearest OSHA Regional Office:

Railroad Museum of Virginia

Should the opportunity arise and you find yourself near Portsmouth, Virginia, a trip to the Railroad Museum of Virginia would be worthwhile. One of our own BMWED recommended FELA Attorneys, Willard J. Moody, Sr., is President of the Museum's Board of Directors and a lifelong railroad buff.

Willard's involvement with the Museum is a labor of love. He is not bashful about his involvement with the Museum and his efforts to promote it wherever he goes.

Located on Crawford Parkway in Portsmouth, Virginia, the Museum's doors are open every Friday and Saturday from 10:00am until 4:00pm. The Museum is also available for special events. The very reasonable price of admission is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children.

Among the many treasures, the Museum proudly displays Norfolk & Western Steam Engine number 1134, a Wabash Railroad Company dining car, Norfolk Southern caboose, and two 1928-era Norfolk & Western Mail cars.

The Museum's mission statement reads, "The mission of the Railroad Museum of Virginia, located at Crawford Parkway, next to Olde Town Portsmouth and the path of history, is to collect and make available to the public for viewing, the exhibits and artifacts from the history of railroads and their people as a very important part of Virginia and America's history. The Museum will be used for the enjoyment and education of the people of Virginia of all ages with a particular emphasis on the education of children."

The Museum is preserving a portion of railroad history that our members have been involved in for more than 125 years. The BMWED supports and thanks the Railroad Museum of Virginia and all of those which help preserve our craft's heritage.

For more information on the Railroad Museum of Virginia call (757) 335-2284, or visit the website at www.railroadmuseumofvirginia.com.



- Boston (617) 565-9860
- New York (212) 337-2378
- Philadelphia (215) 861-4900
- Atlanta (404) 562-2300
- Chicago (312) 353-2220
- Dallas (972) 850-4145
- Kansas City (816) 283-8745
- Denver (720) 264-6550
- San Francisco (415) 625-2547
- Seattle (206) 553-5930

Addresses, fax numbers and other contact information for these offices can be found on the Whistleblower Protection Program's website, www.whistleblowers.gov, and in local directories. Complaints may be filed orally or in writing, by mail (we recommend certified mail), e-mail, fax, or hand-delivery during business hours. The date of postmark, delivery to a third party carrier, fax, e-mail, phone call, or hand-delivery is considered the date filed. If the worker or his or her representative is unable to file the complaint in English, OSHA will accept the complaint in any language.

Results of the Investigation

If the evidence supports your claim of retaliation and a settlement cannot be reached, OSHA will issue a preliminary order requiring the appropriate relief to make you whole. Ordered relief may include:

- Reinstatement with the same seniority and benefits.

- Payment of backpay with interest.
- Compensatory damages, including compensation for special damages, expert witness fees and reasonable attorney's fees.
- Punitive damages of up to \$250,000.

OSHA's findings and preliminary order become a final order of the Secretary of Labor, unless a party objects within 30 days.

Hearings and Review

After OSHA issues its findings and preliminary order, either party may request a hearing before an administrative law judge of the U.S. Department of Labor. A party may seek review of the administrative law judge's decision and order before the Department's Administrative Review Board. Under FRSA, if there is no final order issued by the Secretary of Labor within 210 days after the filing of the complaint, then you may be able to file a civil action in the appropriate U.S. district court.

To Get Further Information

For a copy of the statutes, the regulations and other whistleblower information, go to www.whistleblowers.gov. For information on the Office of Administrative Law Judges procedures, decisions and research materials, go to www.oalj.dol.gov and click on the link for "Whistleblower."

This is one in a series of informational fact sheets highlighting OSHA programs, policies or standards. It does not impose any new compliance requirements. For a comprehensive list of compliance requirements of OSHA standards or regulations, refer to Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This information will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. The voice phone is (202) 693-1999; teletypewriter (TTY) number: (877) 889-5627.

For more complete information:
 **Occupational Safety and Health Administration**
 U.S. Department of Labor
www.osha.gov
 (800) 321-OSHA

DEP 8/2010

Peter E. Kennedy Appointed Assistant to the President



Peter E. Kennedy has been appointed to the position of Assistant to the President at the BMWED National Division office in Novi, Mich., effective June 3, 2013.

Brother Kennedy worked in the Brotherhood's Arbitration Department in Chicago, first as a Staff Assistant in 2008 and later as a Public Law Board Advocate, before taking his new position at National Division this summer. A graduate of the National Labor College, Brother Kennedy began his main-

tenance of way career with CSX Railroad in 2003. He served as Secretary-Treasurer for Allied Federation Local Lodge 0466 for four years.

"Since becoming actively involved in the BMWED union, I have gained the world. I have been able to acquire real world experience as well as a college education and I have been able to provide a nice home and good benefits for my family," Brother Kennedy said. "I have the finest career one could

imagine: every day I get to work for the backbone of America — my maintenance of way brothers and sisters. My passion is working to make a difference for the people that keep our great country and economy moving forward and I am grateful that the BMWED leadership and membership has given me the privilege to serve them."

Originally from Hammond, Ind., Brother Kennedy and his wife Kelly live in Berkley, Mich.

What is a Health Flexible Spending Account (FSA)?

A health FSA lets you use pre-tax dollars, which are deducted from your paycheck, to cover eligible medical, pharmacy, dental and vision expenses.

You can use a health FSA to help pay for certain health care expenses not covered by your other benefits. Examples of FSA expenses may include laser eye surgery, certain dental expenses and acupuncture, just to name a few. See the list of eligible health FSA expenses at yourtracktohealth.com, select *Benefits* and then select the *Health Flexible Spending Account* from the left menu.

To learn more about a health FSA, watch a short video on yourtracktohealth.com, go to the *Quick Links* on the home page and select *Video Library*.



Snap a picture of the code using the QR Reader on your smartphone to launch the video.



Stay tuned for Part 2 in this communications series about the health FSA, which will include information to help you understand the potential tax savings you could enjoy by enrolling in a health FSA.



Consider the Health FSA

1. Estimate your expected eligible FSA expenses for you and your dependents for the coming year.
2. Decide how much money you want to contribute annually to your FSA. You can contribute as little as \$10 per month (\$120 annually) or as much as \$2,500 annually. See the Health FSA Summary Plan Description (SPD) on yourtracktohealth.com, select *Benefits* and then select the *Health Flexible Spending Account* from the left menu.
3. Enroll in the health FSA during Open Enrollment.
Note: You must re-enroll in your FSA every year — FSA enrollment is NOT automatic each year.

After the plan year starts, the money will be taken out from each paycheck tax-free and put into your health FSA account for you to pay for eligible health care expenses. It's that simple.

Visit yourtracktohealth.com for more information about the health FSA, or call the FSA Customer Care Center at 1-888-298-9754.



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You could save hundreds of dollars annually in taxes by participating in a Health FSA

A health flexible spending account (FSA) is a benefit plan that lets you put money aside in a special account, pre-tax, to pay for certain medical costs and other health services.

You could save hundreds of dollars in taxes each year with a health FSA. The amount you could save in taxes depends on how much you set aside and the amount of your expenses.

See Grace's savings example below:

Grace and her family enroll in a health FSA and decide to contribute \$2,000 annually (\$166.67 per month) to the FSA to pay for the family's doctors' visits, prescriptions, new eyeglasses and contact lenses.

Based on Grace's annual tax obligations, she and her family could save more than \$900 in taxes a year by enrolling in and contributing \$2,000 annually to a health FSA. See the table below for more details.

GRACE PAYS	GRACE'S ESTIMATED TAX SAVINGS
28% in federal income tax	\$560
5% in state income tax	\$100
6.2% in Railroad Retirement Tier 1 Tax	\$124
4.4% in Railroad Retirement Tier 2 Tax	\$88
1.45% in Federal Medicare Tax	\$29
Total tax savings for the year	\$901

For educational purposes only. Dollar amounts and savings will differ depending on income, state tax rules, city tax rules and other factors. Please consult a tax, legal or financial advisor about your own personal situation.



Stay tuned for Part 3 in this communications series about the health FSA, which will include access to an online tool to help you calculate your potential tax savings if you were to enroll in a health FSA.



Using Your FSA Dollars

Use an FSA to pay for eligible out-of-pocket expenses like these:

- Doctors' office visits and procedures
- Eyeglasses and vision exams
- Dental treatments (X-rays, cleanings, fillings, etc.)
- Qualifying prescriptions

To view a list of more health FSA eligible expenses, go to yourtracktohealth.com, select *Benefits* and then select *Health Flexible Spending Account* from the left menu.

Learn More

To learn more about a health FSA, watch a short video on yourtracktohealth.com, go to *Quick Links* on the home page and select *Video Library*.

Snap a picture of the code using the QR Reader on your smartphone to launch the video.



Open Enrollment 2014

Look for information in the Open Enrollment materials that you will receive in September and consider the health FSA plan for the 2014 plan year.



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UNION PLUS: 15% UNION DISCOUNT AND \$25 CREDITS WITH AT&T

Union Plus AT&T Program

With kids rushing back to school and the heat in full swing, August is not only your last chance to take advantage of summer fun, but also your last chance to save big with AT&T Wireless! For a limited time only, union members can take advantage of special summer savings through the **Union Plus AT&T program**. 15% Savings...and more!

- ★ Union made 15% discount! Union members save 15% off select monthly wireless service plans on the only unionized wireless carrier. Your savings keep money in your pocket while supporting 45,000 CWA technicians, customer service representa-

tives and retail store personnel at AT&T.

- ★ Talk to your AT&T friends for free. Enjoy free, unlimited calling to friends, family, or anyone in AT&T's growing wireless community.
- ★ Talk as much, or as little, as you want. With AT&T's Rollover® Minutes, if you talk less one month, you can keep your unused minutes from month to month for up to 12 billing periods.
- ★ Special web offers including:
 - Receive **\$25 off new service** when ordering online

- Through August 8, receive **\$25 Google Play Credit** with the purchase of the HTC One smartphone
- Refurbished phones available, free two-day shipping, and more!

- ★ **EVEN MORE SAVINGS:** Move to AT&T from another provider and **receive up to \$100** towards the cost of your service. And if you upgrade to a new smartphone with an AT&T data plan, **we'll give you up to \$100!** Hurry! Funds are limited! **Take advantage of your affordable cell phone plan.**

Start Saving – Union Privilege, Provider of Union Plus Benefits
1100 First Street, NE
Suite 850
Washington, DC 20002

enews@unionprivilege.org





Around the Brotherhood, Continued from Page 14

Southern System Division Local Lodge 804 Convenes Regular Quarterly Meeting

Southern System Division Local Lodge 804 held their regular quarterly meeting in Columbus, Georgia on September 28, 2013. Southern System Division Vice General Chairman Marcus Hood was on hand to discuss issues with the members and field questions.



Local Lodge 804 members and guests.



South Region Vice President Roger Sanchez swears in the newly elected officers.

Chicago & Eastern Illinois System Division Conduct Quadrennial Convention

The Chicago & Eastern Illinois System Division Conducted their Quadrennial Convention in Urbana, Illinois on September 27, 2013.

General Chairman Thomas J. Cartwright and Vice Chairman/Secretary-Treasurer Patrick A. Charters were reelected to their current positions for another term. Also elected to the Executive Board were Doug Sanderson, Clark Pedigo and Brian Green.



Convention delegates and guests.



Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division
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Novi, MI 48375-1328



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