

BMWED

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

JOURNAL



Volume 123 ■ Number 5

www.bmwe.org

December 2014

BMWED, Carriers initiate National Bargaining

Bargaining sessions over the terms of the next "National Agreement" will begin on Jan. 14, 2015 when the BMWED National Bargaining Committee sits down for the first time with management's National Carriers' Conference Committee. The formal start of bargaining began in early November 2014, when the BMWED and the Carriers exchanged Section 6 notices seeking changes in existing agreements. (The term "Section 6 notice" refers to that Section of the Railway Labor Act that governs the formal start of bargaining between labor and management.) The railroads participating in National Bargaining are: CSX, Norfolk Southern, Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Union Pacific, Kansas City Southern and Canadian National.

In the previous two bargaining rounds leading to the National Agreements of 2007 and 2012, the BMWED participated in a bargaining coalition called the Rail Labor Bargaining Coalition. That coalition was not reformed for this round; instead, BMWED will bargain together with SMART-Mechanical over rates of pay, rules and working conditions. BMWED and SMART have retained Richard Edelman, Esq. to assist in bargaining and possible preparation of any Presidential Emergency Board or Arbitration proceedings.

The major subject of bargaining this round, as in the last one, will be healthcare. In the last round, Presidential Emergency Board No. 243 imposed the so-called "UTU pattern" settlement

on healthcare which led to substantial increases in members' costs of healthcare. Once again, the Carriers will be seeking changes to health insurance. BMWED President Simpson observed, "We know the Carriers will be seeking more changes to healthcare. That is why we established a healthcare subcommittee within the Union that has been working for the past year to ensure we are as prepared as possible to negotiate a fair settlement on this issue that protects the interests of our hardworking members."

As bargaining continues, please read the *Journal*, visit the BMWED Facebook page and website and sign up for e-alerts (see page 14) to get updates on the course of bargaining.

United System Division re-elects Below, Owen at Quadrennial Convention

The Unified System Division convened its Quadrennial Convention on Oct. 28 and 29, 2014 in Las Vegas, Nevada. At the Convention, USD General Chairman Louis Below was re-elected by the delegates, claiming 3,504 votes, good for 80 percent of all cast.

"I thank all the members of the Unified System Division for their support and I am honored and excited to lead this great System for another successful four years," Chairman Below said. "Along with the other officers and Executive Board members elected at Convention, I look forward to working to ensure that our Union and System continues to thrive. I am proud to work for these members. It was an extremely successful Convention."

Other election results are as follows:

First Vice Chairman/Secretary-Treasurer Galen Owen was re-elected by acclamation.

Brother Tony Cardwell was re-elected Vice Chairman At-Large (West) in a three-way race. Brother Cardwell secured 64 percent of the votes cast.

Brother Brian Rumler was re-elected Vice Chairman At-Large (East) by acclamation.

Brother Andrew Murphy was re-elected Vice Chairman Region 1 by acclamation.

Brother Mike Hallgren was elected Vice Chairman Region 1 in a three-way race. Brother Hallgren secured 66 percent of the votes cast.

Brother Jeff Rankin was re-elected Vice Chairman Region 2, claiming 2,496 votes, good for 57 percent.

Brother Renne Perez was elected Vice Chairman Region 2 in a four-way race. Brother Perez secured 69 percent of the votes cast.

Brother Adam Allen was elected Vice Chairman Region 3 by acclamation.

Brother Ricardo Canchola was re-elected Vice Chairman Region 3, claiming 2,668 votes, good for 61 percent.

"I congratulate all the newly elected and re-elected officers of the Unified System Division,

and look forward to working with them all," BMWED President Freddie Simpson said. "Together, we will help move our organization forward for the betterment of all our membership. Congratulations to General Chairman Below on a successful Convention."



Newly elected USD officers include (front L-R) Vice Chairman Jeff Rankin, Vice Chairman Tony Cardwell, General Chairman Louis Below, 1st Vice Chairman Secretary/Treasurer Galen Owen, Vice Chairman Ricardo Canchola (back L-R) Vice Chairman Renne Perez, Vice Chairman Mike Hallgren, Vice Chairman Andy Murphy, Vice Chairman Brian Rumler, and Vice Chairman Adam Allen.



Midterm Elections Result in Dem losses



Director of Government Affairs
Charlie Hogue

Entering the November mid-term elections, Democrats held a 55-45 seat advantage in the Senate while Republicans held a 234-201 advantage in the House. The 2014 mid-term election resulted in the Republican Party winning the majority in both the United States Senate and gaining additions to their majority in the House of Representatives. The Republicans have firmly taken control of congress. As a result, Senate Republi-

cans will now move into the chairmanship of all Senate committees and thus control the legislative agendas and priorities for those committees. House Republicans will continue to control the chairmanships of their committees, though in some cases with new chairman, due to retirements and term limits. It's hard to overstate how bad of an election night Democrats had this cycle. By all measures Republicans enjoyed a historic victory, exceeding pre-election expectations across the country.

The 114th Congress convenes in January 2015. Congress will be addressing funding for the federal government and additional priority issues. Prior to January, the federal government was being funded under a Continuing Resolution that expired on December 12. Additionally, the House will hold leadership elections and begin the process of committee assignments. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA) is expected to maintain his

position as Chairman of the committee after successfully completing his first term. Transportation and Infrastructure Ranking Member Rick Rahall (D-OR) was unsuccessful in his reelection bid. House Democrats will have to select someone to serve as Raking member in 114th Congress.

The midterm elections also resulted in significant changes in state government makeup. Going into the elections, Republicans held 30 governorships which has been expanded to a total to 31. The Republicans defended 24 seats, compared to the Democrats' 14. Democrats now hold 18 gubernatorial seats. Of the 36 gubernatorial races, several states switched party control. Republicans managed to make gains from retiring Democrats in Massachusetts, Maryland and Arkansas, as well as defeating incumbent Pat Quinn in Illinois.

Unfortunately for labor, most if not all conservative governors push the right to work (for less) laws which are designed to unravel our collective bargaining rights.

Election night proved that history does tend to repeat itself. It's fair to say it looks similar to the elections of 2006, 2008, and 2010, where one side wins a disproportionate share of the closest races, and party control over Congress and/or the White House switches hands. We have seen this type of sway in politics many times before. As a result, the new congressional climate will pave a rocky road for our President as he enters the final stretch of his term. Combine a conservative Supreme Court with a Republican-dominated Congress and we could see last two years prove to be very difficult for President Obama and for organized labor.

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December, 2014 ■ BMWED DIVISION JOURNAL ■ VOLUME 123 ■ NUMBER 5

The BMWED Journal is the official news publication of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

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The BMWED Journal (ISSN 1049-3921/USPS 067460) is published bi-monthly – 6 times annually at 41475 Gardenbrook Road, Novi, MI 48375-1328. Periodicals postage paid at Southfield, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

ATTENTION POSTMASTER

Send address changes to BMWED, 41475 Gardenbrook Road, Novi, Michigan 48375-1328.

Subscription Price: U.S. and Canada—\$20.00 (U.S.) per year, in advance.

www.bmwed.org

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Change of Address Request

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

QR Code

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.



↑
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A Vice President Speaks

Union members should support all workers



Roger Sanchez
Vice President
South Region

This country is a big place, and I am reminded of that every time I travel on union business. America is a cultural melting pot, made up of a wide-ranging assortment of geography, landscapes, weather, dialects, opinions, religions, foods, and traditions. The list of diversity goes on and on.

The preamble to our Constitution famous reads, "We, the People, in order to form a more perfect Union." And we, the people are an incredibly, and increasingly, diverse mixture. Some cynics may say that diversity pulls us apart, but I disagree. I think diversity adds to our culture — it broadens our outlooks, provides perspective to our opinions and enlightens our decisions. Diversity, viewed with an opened mind, can help us find our collective goals, dreams and aspirations. One of the greatest aspects of living in our country is our ability to unite for the common good. We all universally share the same dream of prosperity.

One thing I have learned in the many conversations I've had with

BMWED Brothers and Sisters, is that we are all looking for a comfortable and complete life. What we all want, regardless of our varying backgrounds, is a honest route to success. Membership in any labor union, including our own BMWED, is a means to attaining that American dream. A seniority roster doesn't differentiate. A collectively bargained agreement doesn't include an addendum on skin color. We are all in this together. A union of one.

Clearly, immigration is a large issue in this country. Many people hold fervent opinions on the subject. As a BMWED Vice President and a union person of Hispanic heritage, I believe that our union, and our country, should strive to be inclusionary. We should offer to help those who want to achieve. I am proud to represent a culturally diverse union that strives to treat everyone equally and fairly.

As President Obama said back in November, when he acted where Congress refused on immigration, those millions of aspiring citizens, who love this country, play by its rules, and cherish its opportunities, should have a realistic path to citizenship. If they are able to work, willing to pay taxes, and are capable of advancing our communities and culture, we should work with them to aid in their success.

Like usual, anti-union voices are out in full force, attempting to summarize immigration into a talking point, except in this case, they can't seem to form a consistent attack message. I've read that, allegedly, labor unions are advocating President Obama's immigration policy because they are desperate for new, dues-paying members.

Conversely, I've also read that labor unions are opponents of the President's plan because it would flood the job market with millions of workers willing, they argue, to work for pittance wages. It appears the fear mongering of the political right lacks in consistency.

Former Labor Secretary Ray Marshall has written that immigration reform with a path to citizenship can raise wages for immigrant workers by 6 percent. When the wage floor rises — particularly in industries where large numbers of easily exploited low-wage, undocumented immigrants currently work — the rising tide benefits all workers. Marshall also writes that, under current policy, employers threaten undocumented workers with retaliation when they attempt to organize a union, file wage claims, or exercise other workplace rights. Immigration reform with a path to citizenship that guarantees workplace rights for aspiring citizens will lessen the threat of employer retaliation and allow workers to defend their rights.

Honest businesses today often compete against other less-moral employers, willing to hire undocumented workers and exploit them for a competitive advantage. Offering a path to citizenship creates a more equal and fair playing field for business. It is the right thing to do.

Brothers and Sisters, we all belong to the BMWED. We all get up in the morning, strap on our boots, and head off to the railroad for another challenging day of work. We are a collective group. We vary in size, shape, gender and color, but the one common thread we all share is that we work on America's railroads and we strive for our collective success. We are inclusionary by design, because what is good for one of us is good for all of us.

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.

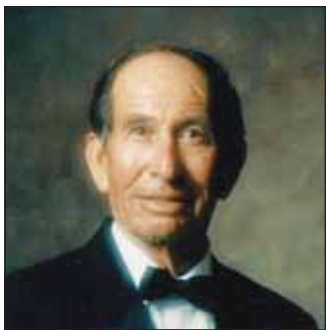


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BMWED news

Manuel Lopez Sanchez

Brother Manuel Lopez Sanchez, from Mojave, Calif., passed away on Oct. 26, 2014, after an acute illness. Up until his illness, he remained very active at the age of 98 years old. Brother Sanchez became a member of the BMWED on March 28, 1952 under the Unified System Division. He worked on the Southern Pacific Railroad for 34 years.

Brother Manuel was born in Mexico on Jan. 20, 1916, and was



married to Altagracia "Grace" Sanchez for 68 years. He and his wife raised their six children in Mojave, Calif. and were blessed with 12 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

After his retirement from the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1986, Brother Manuel enjoyed working in his yard and being an active participant at Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Brother Manuel is survived by his children: Louis Sanchez (Gloria) of Mojave,

Calif.; Rosie Thompson (Addison) of Santa Barbara, Calif.; Hector Sanchez (Kelly) of Mojave, Calif.; Anna McAtee of Santa Clarita, Calif.; Jim Sanchez (Rosie) of Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.; and Linda Thiele (Brad) of Lancaster, Calif.

"On behalf of the entire Brotherhood, I would like to extend my deepest and most sincere condolences to the Sanchez family," BMWED President Freddie Simpson said. "Brother Sanchez had a long and distinguished railroad career and equally long and fulfilling retirement. We will keep his family in our thoughts."



Perry K. Geller, Sr.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

A New Year brings new challenges, but through solidarity, we can prevail

As we enter the New Year, the BMWED will also enter into the next round of collective bargaining for the 2015 wages, rules and benefits with the National Carriers' Conference Committee (NCCC). The BMWED and the NCCC have exchanged Section 6 notices (contract demands) under provisions of the Railway Labor Act, commencing the bargaining sessions.

As union members, we have the right to collectively bargain over wages, rules and benefits. However, the vast majority of the U.S. workforce does not have collective bargaining rights because they are employed in non-union workplaces. Union membership and collective bargaining were once the cornerstones of the American middle class. In the 1950s, approximately 35 percent of the U.S. workforce belonged to a union, the middle class was relatively secure, and income inequality between workers and the rich was fairly narrow. Today, however, only 6.7 percent of the private sector workforce belongs to a union and the widening gap in

income inequality—which has risen dramatically since the late 1970s—has a direct relationship to the decline in union membership.

So what does being a union member mean for you and your family, and how does union density impact income inequality? According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), union workers receive larger wage increases than those of non-union workers, generally earn higher wages than non-organized workers, and also have greater access to most of the common employer-sponsored benefits.

Research clearly shows that union members earn better wages and benefits than workers who aren't union members. On average, union workers' wages are 27 percent higher than their non-union counterparts. More than 79 percent of union workers have jobs that provide health insurance benefits, but less than half of non-union workers do. And unionized workers are 60 percent more likely to have employer-provided pensions. Additionally, unions help employers create a more stable, safe, and

productive workforce—where workers have a say in improving their work lives, work products, and job safety through their unions.

Unions are not only beneficial for their membership, they are also beneficial for the overall economy. When unions are strong, they make gains that then spread throughout the economy. When unions improve wages for their members, non-union employers generally raise their wages in order to attract and retain employees. This in turn gives all workers more purchasing power to buy goods and services and stimulate the economy. In short, a rising tide lifts all boats and more disposable income means more economic activity.

Despite the constant rhetoric we hear from the political right, unions are not the problem; unions are part of the solution to the increasing poverty and growing income inequality in the United States. If unions did not exist, there would be no one to advocate for workers' wages, benefits, and working conditions, and income

inequality and poverty would increase at an even faster rate than it is today.

As we enter the 2015 round of bargaining, the railroad industry is financially strong with future projections showing continuing growth and increased profitability. That growth and profitability is a direct result of your hard work and productivity in safely and skillfully maintaining the tracks, bridges and infrastructure of our nation's railroads in a professional manner. Our intent entering this next bargaining round is to ensure you are justly compensated for your hard work and help preserve the American Dream for you and your love ones. We know we have our work cut out for us in this next round of negotiations, but with your solidarity and support we will prevail.

As we close out 2014 and look to the challenges that lie ahead, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work and dedication and wish you and your family a joyful holiday season and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

BMWED Job Opening – Staff Assistant, Chicago Arbitration Office

The BMWED-IBT National Division is seeking applicants for the position of Staff Assistant – Arbitration. The position will be located in our arbitration office in Chicago, Illinois with a starting salary of \$80,000.

The primary responsibility of Staff Assistants in the Chicago Office is to prepare claims and grievances for arbitration before the National Railroad Adjustment Board and public law boards. Candidates must have strong written and verbal communication skills, analytical skills,

demonstrated organizational ability and basic computer literacy. Experience in handling claims and grievances will be considered a plus.

BMWED provides job training, a relocation package, health and welfare benefits, life insurance, vision care, vacation, promotional opportunities, and other benefits. Active members hired to work for BMWED remain covered under the Railroad Retirement Act and most continue to accumulate railroad seniority during their full-time employment with BMWED.

BMWED is an equal opportunity employer committed to cultural diversity and non-discrimination.

Interested members are strongly encouraged to apply and become part of BMWED's future.

Resumes should include details of your railroad work history, any union activity and union positions held, education and training history, and a sample of your writing skills.

Please Send Resume, cover letter, and writing sample to:

Job Opening – BMWED
Attn: Gary Hart,
Asst. to President
150 S.Wacker Drive - Suite 300
Chicago, IL 60606

garyh@bmwe.org

*Note: If sending by email, please include (Job Opening) in the subject line and attach application materials in PDF format. If sending by mail, please choose USPS or UPS.

The Coalition of Labor Union Women seeks and encourages membership



In March 1974, 3,200 women union members gathered in Chicago to address issues affecting all women in the workplace. Their slogan, "We didn't come here to swap recipes," made it

perfectly clear that they were serious and they were in it for the long haul.

The result of their efforts was the creation of a grassroots national organization: The Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW).

Teamster women were instrumental in our founding and one such example is Clara Day, who served in leadership in IBT Local 743 in Chicago and was a founding member of CLUW, having served as national vice president since 1974 and then executive vice president until about 13 years ago when she became ill and had to step down.

The Coalition of Labor Union Women is America's only national organization for union women. CLUW's mission is:

- To promote affirmative action in the workplace

- To strengthen the role of women in unions
- To organize unorganized women
- To increase the involvement of women in the political and legislative process

We connect labor and women's advocacy.

- Since 1974 CLUW has been connecting women's issues and labor issues and empowering women in labor unions



CLUW President Connie Leak addresses union sisters at the "Labor Speak Up" event on June 22, prior to the White House Summit on Working Families in Washington, D.C.

- CLUW works hard to organize women and encourage them to take leadership roles in their unions as well

as in their lives

CLUW has members from 59 unions across the United States and a small amount in Canada with 40 chapters in 18 states. Our chapters are a critical part of CLUW's success and are engaged in local struggles.

We are active on a local and national level in mobilizations to support our union sisters and brothers on the front lines in organizing efforts and to stop the assault on workers, such as efforts to privatize the U.S. Postal Service, as evidenced by the Staples Campaign.

We pride ourselves on our education and leadership training and one such example is our three-day leadership skills training that occurred in March, which provided an opportunity to educate and empower activists — especially young union women — to carry on our mission.

Today women make up 48 percent of union membership and while there has been some progress on those issues raised in 1974, we still have a long way to go, particularly at a time when union density in the United States is so low, at just 11.4 percent.

It is becoming more and more apparent that there is a war on women. That war is threatening their jobs, their healthcare, their immigration status, and their paychecks. There can be no greater examples of this war than two recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions that struck blows to America's workers (primarily women). These two rulings are *Harris v. Quinn* and the "Hobby Lobby" case. CLUW was quick to issue a statement denouncing both decisions and CLUW President Connie A. Leak was quoted as saying that "CLUW will continue to educate our members and aggressively fight all attempts to restrict the rights of working women on the shop floor and as it pertains to their private decisions on reproduction."

We are continuously working to rally support for a higher minimum wage, equal pay, family leave, paid sick leave, and more. All issues that disproportionately impact women. We work closely with women's organizations that support these issues. Our advocacy takes the form of email alerts, facebook postings, twitter storms, web site postings and on the ground actions. We urge our members to contact their elected officials to support legislation that is important in the lives of working women.

Our voice makes a difference in advancing the needs of working women and families, but we need your support and membership to help us all get there. With increased numbers of IBT and BMWED members in CLUW our impact will be so much greater.

Thank you again for this opportunity and make sure to look us up at www.cluw.org.

RRB Reports Performance Under Customer Service Plan

The U.S. Railroad Retirement Board's Customer Service Plan promotes the principles and objectives of customer-driven quality service agency-wide. The RRB's plan lays out the standards and expresses the time frames in terms of when the agency is required to make its decision to pay or deny an application for benefits. The plan states specifically the level of service that customers can expect, and an important part of the plan is a pledge to keep beneficiaries informed of how well the RRB is meeting the plan's standards. The plan is reviewed and updated periodically as the agency compares its service with the best in business and considers feedback from its customers.

The following questions and answers provide information about the RRB's performance in the key areas of retirement applications, survivor applications, disability applications and payments, and railroad unemployment and sickness benefit applications and claims during fiscal year 2014 (October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014). Included are the customer service performance goals the RRB set for fiscal year 2014. These goals are revised annually based on such factors as projected workloads and available resources. Also included is information on the RRB's overall performance, as measured by the timeliness index developed by the agency.

1. How does the RRB measure overall timeliness for customer service?

The RRB developed an index to measure the overall timeliness of its customer service in four benefit areas: retirement applications; survivor applications; disability applications and payments; and railroad unemployment

and sickness benefit applications and claims. This composite indicator, based on a weighted average, allows for a more concise and meaningful presentation of its customer service efforts in these benefit areas.

2. How timely, overall, was the customer service provided by the RRB in fiscal year 2014, as measured by this timeliness index?

During fiscal year 2014, the overall benefit timeliness index was 98.9 percent. This means that the RRB provided benefit services within the time frames promised in the Customer Service Plan 98.9 percent of the time. More detailed performance information for specific benefit areas is presented in the questions and answers that follow.

3. What standards were used by the RRB in fiscal year 2014 for processing applications for railroad retirement annuities and how well did it meet those standards?

Under the RRB's standards, if you filed an application for a railroad retirement annuity in advance, the RRB will make a decision to pay or deny the application within 35 days of the beginning date of your annuity. If you have not filed in advance, the RRB will make a decision within 60 days of the date you filed your application.

Of the cases processed during fiscal year 2014, the RRB made a decision within 35 days of their annuity beginning dates on 95.2 percent of applicants who filed in advance. The average processing time for these cases was 14.6 days.

Also, of the cases processed during fiscal year 2014, the RRB made a decision within 60 days of their filing

dates on 95.3 percent of applicants who had not filed in advance. In these cases, the average processing time was 24.2 days.

The RRB's goals in fiscal year 2014 were 95 percent timeliness both for persons filing in advance and persons not filing in advance.

4. What standards were used in the area of survivor benefits in fiscal year 2014?

Under the standards, if you filed for a railroad retirement survivor annuity and you were not already receiving benefits as a spouse, the RRB will make a decision to pay, deny, or transfer your application to the Social Security Administration within 60 days of the beginning date of your annuity, or the date the application is filed, whichever is later. If you are already receiving a spouse annuity, the RRB will make a decision to pay, deny, or transfer your application for a survivor annuity to the Social Security Administration within 30 days of the first notice of the employee's death. If you filed for a lump-sum death benefit, the RRB will make a decision to pay or deny your application within 60 days of the date the application is filed.

Of the cases considered during fiscal year 2014, the RRB made a decision within 60 days of the later of the annuity beginning date or the date the application was filed in 96.1 percent of the applications for an initial survivor annuity. In cases where the survivor was already receiving a spouse annuity, a decision was made within 30 days of the first notice of the employee's death in 95.5 percent of the cases. In addition, a decision was

Continued on Page 6



Teamsters now have access to a leading brand of tax preparation software, TurboTax. Buying TurboTax through the Teamster page, you'll receive a discount, plus a portion of what you pay goes toward the James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship Fund. <http://ibt.io/turbotax>

TurboTax products feature:

- A step-by-step interview with easy-to-understand questions;
- Forms automatically filled out using your answers; and
- 100-percent accurate calculations guarantee.

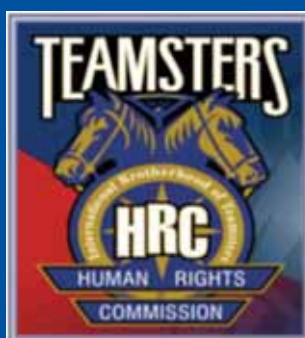
Teamsters Benefit: Discount on TurboTax



Keep more of your hard-earned money this tax season. You can access the Teamster TurboTax page at <http://ibt.io/turbotax>

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.



RRB, Continued from Page 5

made within 60 days of the date the application was filed in 98.4 percent of the applications for a lump-sum death benefit. The combined average processing time for all initial survivor applications and spouse-to-survivor conversions was 13.6 days. The average processing time for lump-sum death benefit applications was 8.9 days.

The goals for fiscal year 2014 were 94 and 95.2 percent timeliness, respectively, for processing initial survivor applications and spouse-to-survivor conversions. For processing applications for lump-sum death benefits, the goal was 98 percent.

5. What standards were used by the RRB in fiscal year 2014 for processing applications for disability annuities under the Railroad Retirement Act?

Under the Customer Service Plan, if you filed for a disability annuity, the RRB will make a decision to pay or deny a benefit within 100 days of the date you filed your application. If it is determined that you are entitled to disability benefits, you will receive your first payment within 25 days of the date of the RRB's decision, or the earliest payment date, whichever is later.

Of the cases processed during fiscal year 2014, the RRB made a decision within 100 days of the date an application was filed on 42.8 percent of those filing for a disability annuity. The average processing time was 132.5 days. Of those entitled to disability benefits, 95.6 percent received their first payment within the Customer Service Plan's time frame. The average processing time was 10.2 days.

The agency's goals were 70 percent and 94 percent timeliness, respectively, for disability decisions and disability payments.

6. What were the standards for the handling of applications and claims for railroad unemployment and sickness benefits and how well did the RRB meet these standards?

Under the standards, if you filed an application for unemployment or sickness benefits, the RRB will release a claim form or a denial letter within 10 days of receiving your application. If you filed a claim for subsequent biweekly unemployment or sickness benefits, the RRB will certify a payment or release a denial letter within 10 days of the date the RRB receives your claim form.

During fiscal year 2014, 99.8 percent of unemployment benefit applications sampled for timeliness and 99.7 percent of sickness benefit applications processed met the RRB's standard. Average processing times for unemployment and sickness benefit applications were 0.7 and 2.1 days, respectively.

In addition, 99.9 percent of subsequent claims processed for unemployment and sickness benefits met the RRB's standard for fiscal year 2014. The average processing time for claims was 4 days.

The agency's goals for processing unemployment and sickness applications in fiscal year 2014 were, respectively, 99.5 and 99.3 percent timeliness. The payment or decision goal for subsequent claims was 99.8 percent timeliness.

7. How did the RRB's performance in meeting its standards in fiscal year 2014 compare to its performance in fiscal year 2013?

Fiscal year 2014 performance met or exceeded fiscal year 2013 performance in the areas of initial survivor applications, spouse-to-survivor conversions, disability payments, unemployment benefit applications, and unemployment and sickness benefit claims.

Average processing times in fiscal year 2014 equaled or improved fiscal year 2013 processing times in the areas of unemployment applications and unemployment and sickness benefit claims. Also, for fiscal year 2014, except for the area of disability decisions, the agency met or exceeded all of the customer service performance goals it had set for the year.

8. Can beneficiaries provide feedback to the RRB about the service they receive?

A Customer Assessment Survey form allowing beneficiaries to evaluate the service they received and suggest how the agency can improve its service is available in every field office. Persons not satisfied with the service they received may also contact the manager of the office with which they have been dealing.





Reminder for Upcoming 2015 Board Elections – We Will be Seeking Good and Willing Candidates for Local Lodge Legislative Boards

Notice

The office of the Director of Government Affairs in Washington, D.C. will mail the 2015 Legislative Convention election instructions and credential forms to all Lodge Secretary-Treasurers (Presidents if an ST is not available) at the end of 2014.

Local Lodge Legislative Representatives and Vice Legislative Representatives

The roles of a Local's Legislative Representative (LR) and a Vice Legislative Representative (VLR) are crucial to the BMWED-IBT, especially now that there are so many adverse actions directed towards organized labor. Election to these offices demands much thought and cautious consideration.

We ask all BMWED-IBT members to carefully review the following information and start thinking whether there is a place within this process for you or someone you know. If you ever wanted to play a part advocating for your Union at the State level or be a part of a lobbying campaign for the betterment of your Union, this is the time for you to take action. The time for meaningful discussion and debate in all BMWED-IBT locals is now so that each local can be prepared and take action when each Local's election time comes around.

Why is having a Legislative Representative Important?

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

Most of the opposition lobbyists BMWED-IBT SLDs and LRs interact with come from a position of comfort and convenience, where their lives have been lived safely on the other side of the "tracks." However, to fair minded and intelligent elected officials, our reasonable positions have merit and credibility. This is why we CAN win.

How does it all work?

Article XII, Section 3 of the National Division Bylaws governing State Legislative Boards and legislative activities requires that each Local Lodge elect by secret ballot, at a Regular or Special Meeting held between January 1 and June 30 in the year following a National Division Convention, a

LR and a VLR who will serve as a member on the Legislative Board in each respective state to represent the lodge in legislative matters concerning the BMWED-IBT. The VLR is elected to take the place of the LR in the event that he/she is unable to carry out their respective duties.

There are lodges that have members in two or more states. These locals must elect an LR and VLR to represent for each state. Having more than one LR and VLR for a local actually works to our benefit, as the more LRs and VLRs we have only makes our voice louder and stronger in our fights; thus, making us a better Union.

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

LRs and VLRs are elected to serve a four-year (4) term which, in this case, will take effect January 1, 2016, the first official act of their new office will place during the last quarter of 2015. The LR from each Local OR the VLR, if the LR cannot attend, is called upon by the incumbent State Legislative Director to attend the State Legislative Board meeting/convention where the election of a State Legislative Director and an Assistant State Legislative Director will take place.

What are the Requirements?

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

We encourage any BMWED-IBT member who has a strong interest in politics and who wants to make a difference for our Union, to run for the office of Local Legislative Representative and Vice Local Legislative Representative.

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

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



DEATH BENEFIT DEPARTMENT

REPORT OF DEATH BENEFIT CLAIMS PAID DURING SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, 2014

| NAME | CITY/STATE | LODGE/SYSTEM/RR | D.O.D. |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|
| ALVIN O. ANDERSON | OMAHA, NE | 1320 BURL/LIFE | 08/12/14 |
| RALPH L. DERR JR. | FOWLerville, MI | 0427 CRSF/LIFE | 09/10/14 |
| C. D. GREENE | CALDWELL, TX | 2410 AT&SFF/LIFE | 08/13/14 |
| EDWARD P. MASCIO | WARREN, OH | 1234 CRSF/LIFE | 05/13/14 |
| EDDIE L. MC COY | LOUISA, KY | 1464 ASF/LIFE | 08/28/14 |
| JULIO PACHECO | ASHLAND, OH | 1900 CRSF/LIFE | 09/12/14 |
| RICHARD E. SAVAGE | CHESTER, IL | 0965 AF/LIFE | 09/21/14 |
| FRANCIS E. TRUESDILL | JANESVILLE, WI | 2643 BURL/LIFE | 09/19/14 |
| FRANK J. YOUNG JR. | CLARKSBURG, WV | 0061 AF/LIFE | 09/05/14 |

PAID SEPTEMBER 1, 2014 TO OCTOBER 31, 2014 \$ 4,500.00
 AMOUNT PREVIOUSLY PAID \$45,489,807.75
 TOTAL AMOUNT PAID TO DATE \$45,494,307.75
 NUMBER OF CLAIMS PAID - 9

REPORT OF DEATH NOTICES RECEIVED DURING SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2014

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------|
| DAVID A. KING | EUGENE, OR | 1054 USD/UP | 09/14/14 |
| TED W. KNAPP | COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA | 1788 USD/UP | 10/17/14 |
| KELLY T. OXFORD | ARKANSAS CITY, KS | 2405 AT&SFF/BNSF | 10/20/14 |
| STEPHEN M. PELKEY | LINCOLN, ME | 0633 NE/ST | 09/16/14 |
| THOMAS A. SCHAFF | BELFIELD, ND | 0306 BURNOR/BNSF | 09/24/14 |
| EARL W. SPRAGUE | VINITA, OK | 1251 AT&SFF/BNSF | 10/15/14 |
| RONALD F. VALLIERE | BERLIN, NH | 0032 CRSF/SLA | 01/15/14 |

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 smart-phone. 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.

THE JAMES R. HOFFA
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
2015-2016
ACADEMIC YEAR SCHOLARSHIPS



Guarantee Your Future

For High School Seniors who are Children of Teamster Members.
 For more information, contact your local Teamsters Union office or visit

www.teamster.org



Four BMWED students receive Teamster scholarships

The James R. Hoffa Scholarship Fund awards scholarships annually to outstanding high school seniors planning to attend an accredited four-year college or university. Applicants must be the son or daughter or financial dependent of a Teamster member relation (including BMWED) who qualifies as a member in "good standing" in the Teamsters Union. For more information, please see www.teamster.org

COURTNEY DOTSON
Member: David Gray, AF



Courtney Dotson is a freshman at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, Arkansas. She is pursuing a double major in accounting and business data analytics. On campus she is a member of Enactus (an organization which engages university students around the world by uniting them behind one idea - economic opportunity should not be exclusive) and Alpha Sigma Tau sorority. Dotson's stepdad has been working for Union Pacific Railroad and a member of the BMWED for almost 35 years.

"His union membership has enabled me (and my siblings) to have outstanding health insurance, scholarship opportunities, and quality time as a family," Courtney wrote.

Scholarships like the James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship have

enabled her to pursue her college degree, live on campus, and not have to worry about how she is going to pay for her education. Dotson's career aspirations include graduating from ATU in May 2018, becoming a Certified Public Accountant, working in industry and eventually establishing her own accounting firm or business.

MICHAEL SIEBERT
Member: Robert Jacobson, BURNOR

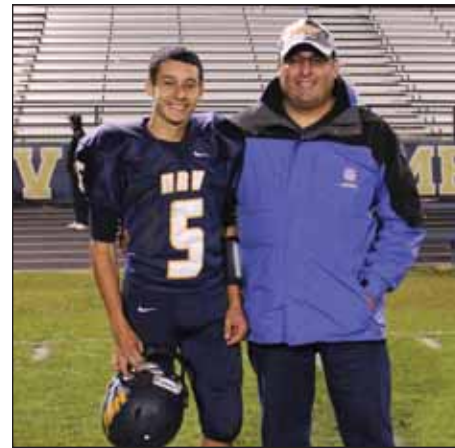


Michael Siebert is a pre-journalism student at the University of Montana. He would love to pursue a career as a feature writer for a publication. Siebert is currently involved with his college radio station and working as a reporter for an "audio magazine" called Word of Mouth.

"Union representation has benefited my father, a railway operator for BNSF, immensely in ways that are too numerous to mention. Though we have come a long way since the days of child labor, etc., unions still remain a vital necessity in the working world. It is all too easy to be used and abused by one's employer, especially as work gets more and more scarce. The United States obviously does not have the labor problems that other countries do, but for lower-class citizens and other underprivileged members of

society, it is often that unions are all they have for protection and the security of their rights as workers. I am certain that the reason my asthma is under control, the reason I am able to afford medication, the reason I have access to quality vision and dental care, is because of the BMWED. Otherwise, I would be paying hundreds of dollars for inhalers and allergy medication; for this reason alone, I can't thank the union enough," Michael wrote.

WYATT VALLEJO
Member: Pete Vallejo, USD



Wyatt Vallejo is currently pursuing a major in nursing at Boise State University in Boise, Idaho. He has high ambitions to further his education and earn a Nurse Practitioner license, with which he could travel and assist communities and areas in need.

"I highly appreciate the scholarship I received from the Teamsters, it has helped me reach the first steps of my career. Before I was even born, the union played a large role in my life. With a baby on the way, my father, Pete Vallejo, knew that he needed to better himself and his family's opportunities. In 1996 he joined the Union Pacific Railroad as a sectionman truck driver in Cascade Locks, Oregon.

For 18 years, the BMWED has provided my family with job security, worker's rights, and exceptional healthcare. My father is currently the Track Inspector for U.P.R.R. in Hood River, and operates between Troutdale and Arlington, OR. From his hard work and with help from the union, my younger sister and I have been given many opportunities in life, and will receive many more in the future," Wyatt wrote.

SHANIA KEE
Member: Nelson Y. Kee, USD



Shania Kee is a member of the class of 2018 at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. She hopes to pursue Medical School after her time at Dartmouth and aspires to help others with a career as a surgeon. Kee's father has been a member of the BMWED since 1987. "The union has it made it possible for him to be there when it matters, i.e. graduation and other important things. Since my father is a part of a union, he has access to many benefits and as his daughter, I also have access to them," Shania wrote.

Congratulations to all the BMWED winners of the Teamsters' James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship!

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)





Freddie N. Simpson

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



As union workers, we stand tall for all

I am sure that you are proud to be a railroader. Each and every person working on the railroad — and especially in the track maintenance department — should hold their selected career in high esteem, because it is honest, important, skilled, and demanding work. I am proud to be your chosen president, elected to represent all you hard-working members as the head of your Union. Together, we make up a vital segment of the rail industry — a rail industry that is fundamental to both the American

and world economies.

As you know, American jobs — at least the good, fair-paying, secure ones — are rapidly disappearing. For decades now, American CEOs have greedily sent millions of jobs to China and other low-wage foreign countries. The prevailing reason for this job outsourcing is to cut their payroll expenditures. In other words, they are using cheap labor to increase corporate revenue.

A recent story in the Dec. 15 *Washington Post* illustrates the

growing and unforgivable problem of corporate greed:

“Millions of American jobs disappeared during the 1990, 2001 and 2008 recessions. That’s what happens in recessions. But for decades after World War II, lost jobs came back when the economy picked up again. These times, they didn’t. And it was a particular sort of job that disappeared permanently in those downturns, economists from Duke University and the University of British Columbia have found: jobs that companies could

easily outsource overseas or replace with a machine.

Economists call those jobs “middle-skill” jobs. They include a lot of factory work — the country is down about 5.5 million manufacturing jobs since 1990, according to the Labor Department — but also a lot of clerical and sales tasks that can be handled easily from a country where workers make a fraction of what they make here.

In 1979, middle-skill jobs accounted for 57 percent of the

Continued on Page 14



Job Opening Staff Assistant

The BMWED-IBT National Division is seeking applicants for the position of Staff Assistant - Arbitration. The position will be located in our arbitration office in Chicago, IL with a starting salary of \$80,000.

The primary responsibility of Staff Assistant in the Chicago Office is to prepare written submissions for arbitration of claims and grievances before the National Railroad Adjustment Board and public law boards. Candidates must have strong written and verbal communication skills, analytical skills, demonstrated organizational abilities and basic computer literacy.

BMWED will provide job training, a relocation package, and other benefits.

The BMWED is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Resume should include details of your railroad work history, union activity and a sample of your writing skills. Experience in handling claims and grievances will be considered a plus.

**Note: If sending by mail, please choose USPS or UPS.
If sending by email please include "Job Opening" in the subject line.
Attach application materials in PDF format.*

Please Send
Resume and Writing Sample to:
Job Opening - BMWED
Attn: Gary Hart
Asst. to President
150 S. Wacker Drive - Suite 300
Chicago, IL 60606
garyh@bmwe.org



Job Opening National Division Auditor

The BMWED-IBT National Division is seeking applicants for the position of National Division Auditor. The position is immediately available and will be located at our Nation Division Office in Novi, MI with a starting salary of \$72,000.

The primary responsibilities of a National Division Auditor include conducting local lodge audits, completing U.S. Department of Labor LM-4 Reports, assist in the training of local lodge Secretary Treasurers and other duties assigned by the Nation Division Secretary Treasurer. Candidates should possess basic computer skills, check book accounting skills and have the ability to work with others in a fast-paced and dynamic work environment.

BMWED will provide job training, a relocation package, and other benefits.

The BMWED is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Resumes should include details of your railroad work history, union activity, education and training history, and a sample of your writing skills.

You may email your resume to contactus@bmwe.org, or by U.S Mail at:

Job Opening - BMWED
c/o Perry K. Geller, Sr.,
Secretary Treasurer
41475 Gardenbrook Rd
Novi, MI 48375





Roll of Honor, From Page 12

Table of names, awards, years, and counts for the 30-year merit award.

Table of names, awards, years, and counts for the 30-year merit award (continued).



Table of names, awards, years, and counts for the 30-year merit award (continued).

Table of names, awards, years, and counts for the 40-year merit award.



Table of names, awards, years, and counts for the 40-year merit award (continued).

Table of names, awards, years, and counts for the 40-year merit award (continued).

Roll of Honor, Continued on Page 14



President's Perspective,

Continued from Page 11

jobs in the U.S. economy, according to calculations by David Autor, an economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. By 2009, the share was down to 46 percent. If the share had not changed over those 30 years — if it had stayed at 1979 levels — there would be 15 million more middle-skill jobs in America today."

A familiar refrain amongst railroaders, when it comes to the crippling problem of job outsourcing, goes "you can't rip up the tracks and move them overseas." Indeed, we are fortunate that our railroad jobs are anchored in the American transportation industry. This fact does help our leverage in contract negotiations and increase our overall viability. However, this doesn't mean that the railroads won't try to contract our work out in order to cut payroll costs.

Railroad companies are always looking for ways to shed costs. They would love to eliminate their contribution to railroad retirement and our health insurance benefits. They would welcome shift-work

and the reduction of overtime pay. Any policy, law or accepted practice that would increase their bottom line would excite their board of directors and shareholders.

We know that less than half of American workers have any kind of pension plan. Most have less than \$10,000 in personal savings. Social Security scarcely provides much financial retirement security, and even it is under relentless political attack.

Unionized railroaders like ourselves are an endangered group of the American working class. Increasingly, we are battling rail companies and paid-off politicians, who see us not as hard-working and proud members of society, but as another category on their accounting sheet.

As we enter the next round of National Bargaining on a new agreement, the rail companies will hear from us as a collected labor force. But many other American workers will have no such negotiating voice. It is imperative that we recognize the serious declines if we become complacent. United we stand; divided we fall. As your BMWED President, I look forward to leading the unified charge ahead.



Job Opening

Staff Assistant, Information Systems

The BMWED-IBT National Division is seeking applicants for the position of Information System Staff Assistant. The position is immediately available and will be located at our Nation Division Office in Novi, MI with a starting salary of \$69,000.

An Information System Staff Assistant is responsible for Helpdesk Support and other duties assigned by the National Division Secretary Treasurer. Candidates must have an excellent working knowledge of computers and be customer service oriented. Support duties include management of and technical assistance with Microsoft Windows, computer systems, hardware and software.

BMWED will provide job training, a relocation package, and other benefits.

The BMWED is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Resumes should include details of your railroad work history, union activity, education and training history, and a sample of your writing skills.

You may email your resume to contactus@bmwe.org, or by U.S Mail at:

Job Opening - BMWED
c/o Perry K. Geller, Sr.,
Secretary Treasurer
41475 Gardenbrook Rd
Novi, MI 48375

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.bmwe.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.

Roll of Honor, From Page 13

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------|------|------|
| LEONARD S NATION | AF-SE | 0665 | 1974 |
| MICHAEL R NEHRING | AT&SFF | 0361 | 1974 |
| THOMAS E NESS | BURNOR | 0158 | 1974 |
| DONALD J NICKELATTI | BURL | 0509 | 1974 |
| CHARLES W NORCROSS | AF-SE | 0670 | 1974 |
| THOMAS P NORTON | CRSF | 0505 | 1974 |
| GERALD L ODERMANN | BURNOR | 1280 | 1974 |
| GREG M OLD | AT&SFF | 2405 | 1974 |
| JOHN R OLSON | BURNOR | 0144 | 1974 |
| OLE M OLSON | USD | 1847 | 1974 |
| JAMES T ORR | AF-SE | 0725 | 1974 |
| CHARLES D PAHLS | AF-SE | 1432 | 1974 |
| WARREN PANZER | BURNOR | 0364 | 1974 |
| LELAND W PENDERGRASS | BURL | 0798 | 1974 |
| STEVEN H PESZKO | SOU | 0523 | 1974 |
| DANIEL E PETERS | AF-SE | 0682 | 1974 |
| CHARLES A PFEIFFER | CRSF | 1259 | 1974 |
| GEORGE B POWELL | AF-SE | 0563 | 1974 |
| FLOYD C PREE | AF-SW | 1507 | 1974 |
| JOHN A RADZIKOWSKI | N E | 1368 | 1974 |
| PETER RAMIREZ | BURL | 1105 | 1974 |
| RAMIRO L RAMIREZ | AT&SFF | 2401 | 1974 |
| C PERRY RAPIER | PENN | 3017 | 1974 |
| BARRY L RATLIFF | ASF | 0568 | 1974 |
| RANDALL T REDFORD | ASF | 0598 | 1974 |
| LEEMAN P REED | CRSF | 0891 | 1974 |
| JAMES E REGISTER | SOU | 0619 | 1974 |
| DENVER REYNOLDS | AF-SE | 0112 | 1974 |
| PETER C RICARDI | CRSF | 0160 | 1974 |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|------|------|
| PERRY F RICHTER | USD | 0239 | 1974 |
| JAMES T ROBBINS | AF-SE | 0667 | 1974 |
| VINCENT L ROBERTS | BURL | 1533 | 1974 |
| JACE J ROBERTS | CRSF | 0882 | 1974 |
| ONEAL ROBERTS | AF-SW | 1252 | 1974 |
| DOUGLAS C ROBERTS | BURL | 1533 | 1974 |
| JAMES E ROBINSON | ICGF | 0652 | 1974 |
| ROGER V ROBINSON | USD | 0874 | 1974 |
| DENNIS H ROCK | CRSF | 0176 | 1974 |
| STEVEN R ROGERS | USD | 0239 | 1974 |
| TONY A ROSALEZ | BURL | 1074 | 1974 |
| LANNY ROSS | AF-SE | 2162 | 1974 |
| ROBERT L RUFFNER | CRSF | 0704 | 1974 |
| R W RUMSEY | AT&SFF | 2404 | 1974 |
| RICHARD A RUTLEDGE | BURL | 1888 | 1974 |
| WALTER W SABOT | PENN | 3023 | 1974 |
| ROGER D SANCHEZ | AF-SW | 1058 | 1974 |
| DENNIS W SCHNEIDER | BURNOR | 0706 | 1974 |
| CHARLES S SHOEMAKER | BURL | 2621 | 1974 |
| MICHAEL SILLETTI | CRSD | 2905 | 1974 |
| EARL C SIMPSON | CRSFNP | 2307 | 1974 |
| JAMES E SKELTON | AF-SE | 0916 | 1974 |
| LA VERN R SMITH | BURL | 1351 | 1974 |
| TERRY L SNOW | AF-SW | 0965 | 1974 |
| JACK E SPEARS | AF-SW | 1099 | 1974 |
| ALLEN M STEFFEN | USD | 1879 | 1974 |
| LINNDAL STEIGER | BURNOR | 0297 | 1974 |
| THOMAS STEPHENSON | AF-SW | 0927 | 1974 |
| DAVID T STETAR | PENN | 3004 | 1974 |
| ELTON G SWAIN | CRSF | 0887 | 1974 |
| BILLIE F SWEARENGIN | AF-SW | 1099 | 1974 |

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------|------|------|
| RICHARD C TACKETT | AF-SE | 0025 | 1974 |
| JAMES A TEAGUE | CRSF | 0201 | 1974 |
| ROGER L THOMPSON | BURL | 1108 | 1974 |
| VERNON M THOMPSON | AF-SE | 2102 | 1974 |
| JOSEPH J TOMAICH | WCSD | 1710 | 1974 |
| ROY J TONG | BURNOR | 0750 | 1974 |
| NATHANIEL TRAWICK | AF-SE | 0702 | 1974 |
| BASIL TRENT | AF-SE | 0139 | 1974 |
| LAWRENCE A TRICHE | ICGF | 1165 | 1974 |
| EARL E TURLEY | AF-SE | 0112 | 1974 |
| PAUL E TURNER | AT&SFF | 0493 | 1974 |
| CLIFFORD O TURNER | PENN | 3060 | 1974 |
| THOMAS E URICH | USD | 1133 | 1974 |
| L URSIN | ICGF | 0655 | 1974 |
| RICKY USSERY | AF-SW | 0601 | 1974 |
| REMEDIOS R VAZQUEZ | USD | 1227 | 1974 |
| DANIEL L VIZZA | PENN | 3030 | 1974 |
| DON L WADE | AT&SFF | 2406 | 1974 |
| DALE T WAGNER | PENN | 0400 | 1974 |
| GROVER C WASDIN | AF-SE | 2163 | 1974 |
| ROBERT E WATTS | BURNOR | 1763 | 1974 |
| JIMMY R WHEATON | BURL | 0961 | 1974 |
| BOBBY L WILKINS | AT&SFF | 0493 | 1974 |
| CHARLES S WILSON | AF-SE | 0547 | 1974 |
| GEORGE N WINDISCH | CRSF | 1037 | 1974 |
| ALVIN D WINKELMAN | BURL | 1214 | 1974 |
| ROBERT M WINTER | CRSF | 0704 | 1974 |
| R A WOLF | PENN | 3098 | 1974 |
| JAMES T WOOLARD | SOU | 0523 | 1974 |
| JOHNNY R WRIGHT | BURL | 2621 | 1974 |
| STEVEN G YOUNG | SOU | 0546 | 1974 |

50 year
MERIT AWARD

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|------|------|
| DAVID J RITACCO | WCSD | 0472 | 1964 |
| ELIAS SAVALA | AF-SW | 0345 | 1964 |

60 year
MERIT AWARD

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|------|------|
| TORIBIO ARMIJO | BURNOR | 0159 | 1954 |
| CARLOS BRISENO | BURL | 1906 | 1954 |
| EUGENE BROWN | AF-SE | 1300 | 1954 |
| JOHN T DABNEY | AF-SE | 0818 | 1954 |
| ROBERT D HALL | AT&SFF | 2407 | 1954 |
| DON R HATHCOCK | AT&SFF | 2033 | 1954 |
| CLIFTON L HICE | B&LE | 1115 | 1954 |
| KENNETH D LILLEY | N E | 0633 | 1954 |
| JOHN W MORRISON | AF-SE | 1556 | 1954 |
| ROBERT E RAMSIER | CRSF | 1900 | 1954 |
| CELESTINE SANTISTEVAN | AT&SFF | 0204 | 1954 |
| TED SELFORS | BURNOR | 1326 | 1954 |
| LEROY G TAYLOR | BURNOR | 0735 | 1954 |



Around the Brotherhood

AT&SFF Local 2404 elect officers

Members of AT&SFF Local 2404 held officer elections this fall. Among those sworn-in by General Chairman Gary Marquart include (from left):

President: Vern VanAsdall
Vice President: Matt Reed
Local Chairman: Brett Seastrom
Grievance Committee Member: Steve Hospkins
Local Chairman: Justin Tarver



C&EI Local Lodge 0063 elects officers

Members of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois System Division Local 0063 met to elect Lodge officers on Oct. 25. In attendance were members and retirees, including former C&EI General Chairman L.D. Riley and current General Chairman Tom Cartwright.



CRSF Local 305 meets in Rahway, N.J.

Consolidated Rail System Federation Local Lodge 305 held a regular meeting in Rahway, N.J. on Oct. 28 to discuss pertinent union and railroad matters.



Lodge 1035 Brothers Neisz and Williams retire

Allied Federation Local Lodge 1035 held a meeting on Saturday, Nov. 8 in Evansville, Ind. The honorees included two recent retirees: Brothers Wayne Neisz (left) and Steve Williams (right). Pictured at center is AF General Chairman Dennis Albers.



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

WANT

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

HEAR

You may email cballew@bmwe.org or send by U.S. Mail to:

FROM

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

YOU





The BMWED National Division Officers and Executive Board hope you had a wonderful Holiday Season and all our best for a fantastic 2015!



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



Periodicals Postage
PAID
Southfield, Michigan
and additional offices



recycled paper

