# BIMMED

BROTHERHOOD OF MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYES DIVISION

of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

J U K N A



Volume 124 ■ Number 3 www.bmwe.org July-August-September, 2015

MEMBERSHIP INPUT VITAL; SURVEY COMING SOON

# **BMWED to Conduct Research on Occupational Risk Reduction**

BMWED President Freddie N. Simpson, with the full support of the National Division Officers, has approved a Brotherhood-wide research study to address the long-standing absence of high quality data reflecting the nature, frequency, severity and socio-economic consequences of occupational risk and its impact on BMWED members. This project is unprecedented in scope and has the full institutional support of BMWED's leadership.

President Simpson said, "This research is intended to remedy the current lack of comprehensive and accurate documentation of occupational risks encountered by hard-working BMWED members throughout their careers. BMWED's multi-faceted effort to make the workplace safer requires a full understanding of past and present workplace conditions in order to reduce risk and create a safer and healthier

work environment for current and future BMWED members."

The project will be coordinated by the BMWED Department of Safety and conducted by a select team of highly credentialed academic and medical researchers. The research team will focus their studies on areas of concern identified by active and retired BMWED members, beginning with a forthcoming comprehensive membership survey.

The study is intended to assess occupational risk both quantitatively and qualitatively in order to identify and define problems, point to solutions, and help BMWED address risk reduction in a data-driven and comprehensive manner. The information gathered in this study will be used to enhance the health, safety, and welfare of current and future members by providing scientifically and economically validated data for

use by BMWED in the legislative, regulatory, and labor/management arenas. Ultimately, this research will aid the Brotherhood in quantifying occupational risk so that identified risks can be mitigated through the Risk Reduction provisions of the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008.

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of BMWED members participating in the survey is of paramount importance and will be built into the research protocols.

BMWED encourages each and every member to participate in the upcoming survey and support this important occupational risk reduction research project. Additional information regarding member participation will be provided via mail, the BMWED Journal, and other appropriate means as we move this important research project forward.

Continued on Page 7

# BMWED organizes MOW workers on Indiana Railroad Company

Twenty-four maintenance of way employees with The Indiana Railroad Company are the newest members of the BMWED, voting in a super-majority Sept. 2 to join our Union. The results of the vote were certified by the National

Mediation Board Sept. 3.

The new members are now a part of the BMWED's Allied Federation. They currently do not have a collective bargaining agreement setting wages and rules, instead working under

a unilaterally imposed set of company policies. The first course of action for the BMWED will be negotiation of Continued on Page 7



# Affiliated System Federation charters new lodge

BMWED Affiliated System Federation members who work at the Wheelersburg, Ohio coal terminal along the Ohio River now have their very own lodge — ASF Local Lodge 2434.

Chartering a new lodge takes a lot of persistence and hard work. The 32 active members of

new Lodge 2434 were asking for their own lodge for years, and through their efforts, and the help of ASF General Chairman Jack David, Vice Chairmen Justin Blankenship and Johnny Long, and BMWED South Region Vice President Roger Sanchez, the hurdles to a new lodge charter



have been overcome.

"We are very proud to have started this new lodge for the members who work at the Wheelersburg Norfolk Southern terminal. They deserved to have their own unique voice in our Brotherhood," ASF General Chairman Jack David said. "This is a great accomplishment and a proud day for all of us."

ASF Local Lodge 2434 will now be able to send their own delegate to Convention and fall under BMWED National Handling during negotiations. Forming the lodge affords the members who work at Wheelersburg to discuss the issues and ideas that directly affect their work at the terminal.

"I am encouraged to have a new lodge represented in the BMWED and proud of the new officers for stepping up and taking action," BMWED President Freddie Simpson said. "Congratulations to our Brothers in Wheelersburg."

As mentioned, one of the first orders of business for the new lodge was to elect local officers. They include: President Brent Hall, Vice President Randy Williams, and Secretary-Treasurer Todd Holland.

Congratulations to new ASF Lodge 2434 on your new charter.

# Keep up with BMWED on facebook

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F Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes

Q

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# And LIKE our page!





# **Change of Address Request**

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

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

cballew@bmwe.org

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Freddie N. Simpson

Perry K. Geller, Sr. Secretary-Treasurer

C. Clark Ballew

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### www.bmwe.org

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### **OR Codes**

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2 BM#DJOURNAL

# BMWED Brothers meet, compete at obstacle race in Boise

### By Brother Roy L. Morrison

With a membership so vastly dispersed all over the nation, BMWED members are finding interesting ways to connect with their Brotherhood family. The nation's fastest growing sport of obstacle racing is bringing BMWED members, both past and present, together in the gyms and on the course. On June 13, 2015, four members and two former members met for the first Reebok Spartan Race in Boise, Idaho.

This is the fourth Spartan race I have participated in the past year, and I was fortunate enough to have my BMWED Brothers alongside me for two of them. My wife also raced in one. In the coming months, I plan to participate in four more with my BMWED Brothers.

In Boise, the terrain presented racers with one of the most challenging Sprint courses on the Reebok Spartan Tour. The 4-mile, 25-obstacle course took full advantage of the hills adjacent to Thomas Pence Ranch in Payette, ID. The racers left the start line and were immediately greeted with three large moats that ensured racers emerged wet and muddy. Afterwards, the climbing began. Over the course the hills would be climbed five times, each ascent climbing to an obstacle or two, followed by quick descents into the ravines.

There was very little established trail on the course. Racers made their own

routes up the hills and bushwhacked their way down. The highlight of the course was the gauntlet of obstacles in the festival area. This consisted of a rapid succession of the Multi-bar, the Z-wall, the Hercules Hoist and the Rope Climb. Many racers without developed grip strength were left doing 120 burpees in this section. And for good measure, making a return were the traditional Tractor-Pull and the Monkey Bars.

One thing fairly unique to the Spartan races is that although each racer is on an individual mission, teamwork is allowed and encouraged. With the help of their teammates, all our members finished – and although they may have had a few bumps, bruises, and some rope burn, very few burpees where required. The weather was perfect, the terrain was challenging and the athletes gave it their all to complete the course and earn their finisher's medals. Congratulations to all, and I hope to see more of you on the course in the future!

Maybe it is future Spartan Races, maybe it's golf courses, maybe it's something else – I encourage all of you to find common, preferably healthy, ways to connect with your BMWED Family.

Brother Morrison is an West Region Internal Organizer for the BMWED CAT Team and an 18-year member of Unified System Division Lodge 325.







### **NOTICE**

### Article XV, Section 8 -Transfer Refunds

**Sec. 8.** Refunds of monthly dues, fees and assessments for those who transfer outside the jurisdiction of BMWED will only be allowed for the months following the month the applicable General Chairman involved receives a written request and/or a valid revocation of the Dues Deduction Agreement wage assignment authorization. A notice pertaining to the Brotherhood's dues refund Bylaws provision will be published semiannually in the Secretary-Treasurer Report of the *Journal* or its successor publication.

# BENEFIT IMPROVEMENTS ANNOUNCED FOR THE BMWE HEALTH AND WELFARE PLAN FOR OCCUPATIONALLY DISABLED MEMBERS

The Trustees of the BMWE Health and Welfare Plan for Occupationally Disabled Members are pleased to announce the following benefit improvements for covered members. Participating federations include: the Allied Federation (limited to those groups who participate in the Plan), the Southern System Division, and members of the former Nickel Plate-Wheeling & Lake Erie Federation.

### • HEALTH BENEFITS ADDED FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES OF MEMBERS WHO PASS AWAY WHILE IN RAILROAD-PROVIDED LODGING

Medical coverage under the Plan has been expanded to cover the surviving spouses and children of members of participating federations who die while on the premises of lodging provided or paid for by the railroad, while temporarily residing at such lodgings. To be eligible, the member's death must occur on or after May 1, 2015. Additionally, the deceased member must have had at least 12 months of

compensated service in employment under the jurisdiction of the BMWED within the two years immediately preceding his death. This coverage for qualifying surviving spouses and children goes into effect as of October 1, 2015.

If you are aware of a surviving spouse who might qualify for this benefit, please pass this information along.

Under current rules, this coverage is provided free of charge.

### BENEFIT MAXIMUM INCREASED

The Medical Benefit lifetime maximum was increased from \$141,400 to \$145,800 effective July 1, 2015. This is the maximum benefit available to each person covered under the Plan and is in effect for all claims incurred on or after July 1st.

You can contact the administration office of the Plan for full details regarding this program at: 1(800) 831-4914.







Perry K. Geller, Sr.

# SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

# Let's stand and protect our Occupational Disability

Our Railroad Retirement benefits are under attack once again. This time, right-wing ideologues in Congress— lead by the Inspector General (IG)—have put the Occupational Disability program at the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) in its sights. The latest attack on RRB Occupational Disability has its genesis on the Long Island Railroad (LIRR), when the New York Times first reported what appeared to be cases of fraudulent disability claims arising on the Long Island Railroad (LIRR) in 2008.

At that time, Congress took up an investigation into the apparent fraud perpetuated by a small group of LIRR retirees and their medical advisors to determine if the alleged fraud in Occupational Disability was a wide-spread problem or a localized issue confined to the LIRR. Try as they might to broadly paint our Occupational Disability program as a fraudulent boondoggle, the 2008 investigation found that the alleged fraud was limited to circumstances unique to the LIRR and that no significant anomalies were uncovered outside of the LIRR.

To understand the potential impact of this

assault, you need to understand how unique and valuable the RRB Occupational Disability program is for BMWED members. The Occupational Disability program permits railroad workers who can no longer perform their railroad jobs to get on with the rest of their lives without fear of complete financial ruin, although they must provide their own medical insurance. This program, funded solely through payroll taxes paid by railroad workers and their employers, provides an annuity to long service and older railroad workers who cannot perform their current railroad job due to injury, illness or simple, old age wear and tear. Few if any private sector workers have such a benefit. Consequently, we as railroad workers are often seen by certain politicians and ideologues as getting "special" treatment that they believe is "above our station" in life. Put simply, they think that we as working people have it too good.

The outline of this assault on our Occupation Disability program became known on May 1, 2015, when the House Government Operations Subcommittee held a hearing titled, "Is the Railroad Retirement Board Doing Enough to Protect Against Fraud?" The three witnesses were the Retirement Board's Inspector General (IG), an opponent of the current Occupational Disability program; a representative of the GAO, an agency that had been critical of the RRB; and the "public" member (Chairman) of the RRB.

Following the hearing, the Carrier Member of the RRB jumped on the bandwagon, proposing the RRB adopt 22 recommendations made by the IG regarding administration of the Occupational Disability program. Then, the RRB, acting through the Carrier Member and the Public Member Chairman—over the strong objections of the Labor Member—adopted the IG's proposed recommendations. The IG, with the support of the Carrier Member and the Public Member, is pushing for, among other adverse changes, a two-year limitation on receipt of the disability annuity. What would happen to a former railroad worker after those two years if he or she couldn't obtain a total and permanent Continued on Page 11

# A Vice President Speaks

### An update on the Brotherhood's CAT program



David R. Scoville Vice President West Region

Beginning in March of this year, our Brotherhood's Communication Action Team (CAT) started visiting railroad worksites around the country. CAT organizers focused on inperson engagement with membership and gathering member input concerning National Bargaining through a Contract Survey. We've also strived to ensure a collection of good contact info for all BMWED members so that we can communicate effectively through email, social media and text messaging.

Hopefully, you've had the opportunity to meet with a CAT organizer or trained Front Line Communicator at your worksite and been able to complete a survey. If you have not, please reach out to your General Chairman or the CAT Internal Organizing Coordinator and let them know you are interested in more information. The CAT Coordinator is Carey Dall and he can be reached by email at cdall@bmwe.org.

Several members have inquired about the survey results. Below is an update of what we've achieved so far (through the end of September). We have accomplished a lot in a short time, but we are not stopping here! The following numbers are only *preliminary* results. We will continue our worksite visits with the survey for another few months at least. Our goal is to get 10,000 surveys from BMWED members by the New Year. (It is important to note that these numbers are not completely reflective of how the membership views the issues overall – we still have a lot of members to survey!)

- + Worksites visited: 380 and counting
- + Surveys collected: 4,000 and counting
- + Survey results:
  - Health care as the #1 issue: 50.3 percent
  - Wages as #1 issue: 23.8 percent
  - Additional paid time off as #1: 9.7 percent
  - Safety as #1 issue: 6.3 percent
  - Travel pay as #1: 4.7 percent
  - No response: 5.2 percent

In addition to the results above, members selected Health Care as a #2 issue on 23.1

Continued on Page 10

### 2015 BMWED SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT; ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN

BMWED members and their dependents encouraged to apply

Pursuant to BMWED Resolution #38, reaffirmed by the 2014 BMWED Convention, two annual scholarships in the amount of \$2,000.00 each will be awarded in November 2015 to BMWED members or eligible dependents, with preference given to applicants enrolled or scheduled to enroll in an accredited college or university in the pursuit of labor-related studies. The annual scholarship award is designed to encourage and recognize the achievements of BMWED members and their dependents, and to assist them in obtaining a college education. "This is an especially important benefit to BMWED families in light of the escalating cost of higher education," said BMWED President Freddie Simpson. "For many working families, the cost of a college education has become largely unaffordable. The BMWED scholarship is intended to help educate the future leaders of our nation and our unions, and will serve to strengthen Organized Labor's efforts to protect workers' rights and preserve the middle class."

Continued on Page 6



# Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Empoyes Division Annual Scholarship Notice

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.

Two \$2,000 BMWED Scholarships will be awarded in November 2015 to members or dependents of members of the BMWED in good standing.

Application materials must be submitted by <u>mail</u> and received by BMWED no later than close of business October 30, 2015.

Please visit www.BMWED.org for application forms and more details regarding Eligibility, Application Procedure, and Selection Criteria.

JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2015

# **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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# 2014 D.R.I.V.E. Awards

Highest Contributing Officer

Brian R. Thies, First Vice Chairman, Allied Federation

(Brother Thies was awarded with a BMWED DRIVE wrist watch and a Plaque of Appreciation.)

**Highest Contributing Member** 

**Gregory S. Kreie**, Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe FRISCO System Federation, Local Lodge #2417

(Brother Kreie was awarded a BMWED wrist watch and a Plaque of Appreciation.)

Highest Contributing System or Division

Unified System Division – 4,974 total membership (average for 2014) with a total of 352 members contributing

(General Chairman Louis Below was awarded with a Plaque of Appreciation on behalf of our contributing members of the Unified System Division.)

**Highest Contributing State** 

Illinois.

(State Legislative Director Eric Dismuke was awarded with a Plaque of Appreciation on behalf of our contributing members in Illinois.)

Highest Contributing Local Lodge Local Lodge #2417

(Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe FRISCO System Federation, Local Lodge Secretary Treasurer, Gregory S. Kreie, received a Plaque of Appreciation on behalf of our contributing members in Local Lodge #2417.)

### BMWED Scholarship, From Page 5

### **ELIGIBILITY**:

Applicant must be: (1) a dependent of a BMWED member in good standing who is a high school senior enrolled or planning to enroll in an accredited college or university, or a full-time undergraduate or graduate student enrolled at an accredited college or university; or, (2) a BMWED member in good standing enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student at an accredited college or university.

Preference will be given to applicants pursuing the study of labor-related subjects or pursuing a degree in labor-related subjects.

### **APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

6

To apply for the BMWED scholarship, an applicant must meet all the eligibility requirements and submit via mail the following:
(1) A completed application form (available on line at www.bmwe.org); (2) Most recent

academic transcript (if applicable); (3) College entrance examination, i.e., ACT and/or SAT scores (if applicable); (4) A list of extracurricular, community service and/or union activities; (5) A statement of 300 words or less written by the applicant outlining his or her employment history and career goals; and, (6) A statement of 300 words or less written by the applicant explaining how the BMWED has impacted his or her life.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA:**

Three (3) applications verified to meet all necessary criteria will be selected by random draw from the pool of applications received by the close of business on October 30, 2015. The selected applications will be copied and distributed to the BMWED Vice Presidents who will independently review and rank each application on a scale of 1 - 3, with 3 being the highest ranking and 1 being the lowest ranking.

The two applicants garnering the highest aggregate rankings will receive notice of the scholarship award in November. Any tie in ranking score will be decided by the National Division President based upon his final review of the tied applications.

The BMWED Scholarship award check will be made out directly to the college or university where the award recipients are enrolled or accepted for enrollment. Upon notification of the award, it will be necessary for each recipient to furnish the National Division President with information to facilitate the issuance of the award check payable to the accredited college or university where the applicant is accepted or enrolled.

Application materials must be submitted by mail\* (USPS or UPS only) and be received by BMWED at the address below no later than the close of business October 30, 2015. Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted. Please submit to:

BMWED Scholarship Attn: Rick Inclima International Brotherhood of Teamsters

25 Louisiana Ave., NW, 7th Floor

Washington, DC 20001
An application form and a complete description of the application procedures and eligibility requirements can be downloaded from the Brotherhood's website at www.bmwe.org. Any questions regarding the BMWED Scholarship or application process may be forwarded via e-mail to BMWED Director of Safety and Education Rick Inclima at Ricki@bmwe.org or by calling 202-508-6449.

\*Note: Pursuant to Teamster policy, delivery of any package or mail by non-union carriers will not be accepted by the Teamster's shipping/receiving department. Therefore, to assure delivery please mail through the United States Postal Service [USPS] or United Parcel Service [UPS] only.

BMWEDJOURNAL

### **RETIREMENT CHANGES DURING 05/01/2015 TO 06/30/2015**

						<del>_</del>	_							
	*** July 2014 **	**			MARK S KRILEY	BURL	1105	BNSF	04/02/2015	LARRY S TEBAY	BURNOR	0159	BNSF	05/30/2015
RICKY A RIDER	AT&SFF	1251	BNSF	07/01/2014	KEITH E VAN OVERBEKE	BURNOR	1055	BNSF	04/02/2015	NORBERT HOOSE	AF	1715	KCS	05/31/2015
RICHARD B TOWNSLEY AT&SFF 2415 BNSF 07/06/2014			JAMES M GARMAN	CRSF	2780	NS	04/02/2015	ALLEN K BRENNAN	BURL	1316	BNSF	05/31/2015		
					Darrell Collard	BURL	0783	BNSF	04/03/2015	JAMES P SCHUH	BURL	0331	S00	05/31/2015
	*** October 2014	***			BRIAN R ECKEL	CRSF	1037	NS	04/04/2015	KENNETH D ANETSBERGER	USD	0377	UP	05/31/2015
MANUAL S RODRIGUES	CRSF	0482	CSXT	10/30/2014	CURTIS A PARKIN	BURNOR	0364	BNSF	04/05/2015	ROY L CAVIN	USD	0437	UP	05/31/2015
					JOHN EGSTAD	BURNOR	0364	BNSF	04/20/2015	ROBERT A CIHLA	USD	0227	UP	05/31/2015
	*** November 201	4 ***			DARCY E NESS	BURNOR	0295	MRL	04/23/2015	TERRY L GLENN	USD	1152	UP	05/31/2015
THOMAS J MC KINNON	CRSF	0201	KEOL	11/07/2014	JOHN O AITON	BURNOR	0144	BNSF	04/30/2015	RICHARD MARTINEZ	USD	0473	UP	05/31/2015
KENNETH R SANTERO	BURL	0961	BNSF	11/21/2014										
					***	' May 2015 **	**			***	June 2015	***		
	*** December 201	4 ***			MARKAL L BETTIS	BURNOR	0706	BNSF	05/01/2015	JIMMY K OLIVER	AT&SFF	2410	BNSF	06/01/2015
DANIEL A BEASLEY	CRSF	0891	CSXT	12/31/2014	ALLAN D FICEK	BURNOR	1296	BNSF	05/01/2015	HAROLD G COLE	PENN	3089	NRPC	06/01/2015
					TERRY E GRATEN	BURNOR	0249	BNSF	05/01/2015	SAMUEL W COLE	USD	0591	BRC	06/01/2015
	*** January 2015	***			CHARLES G GENTRY	BURL	1302	BNSF	05/02/2015	RON L GIFFORD	USD	1517	UP	06/01/2015
JESUS H JARAMILLO	USD	1402	UP	01/01/2015	RON W MOSEMAN	BURL	0036	S00	05/04/2015	RANDY HUTCHISON	USD	1071	UP	06/01/2015
DON R YAZZIE	USD	1020	UP	01/01/2015	RICHARD M FAZZINA	BURNOR	0272	MRL	05/05/2015	ROGER L MC DONALD	USD	0968	UP	06/01/2015
					ROBERT A ARCARO	BURL	0788	BNSF	05/16/2015	RAY B ROBINSON	USD	0591	BRC	06/01/2015
	*** February 2015	***			MARK A TOTH	PENN	3094	NS	05/16/2015	MICHAEL D WILSON	USD	0686	UP	06/01/2015
C H NEAL	ASF	0598	NS	02/27/2015	PEDRO G HERRERA	BURL	0798	BNSF	05/25/2015	EARLE G BROOKS	AF	2655	CSXT	06/04/2015
ROBERTO OCHOA	BURL	0042	S00	02/28/2015	EDWARD G CHAVEZ	USD	1096	UP	05/27/2015	GERARD A HANSEN	AT&SFF	2404	BNSF	06/04/2015
					RANDY L BOGAN	AT&SFF	1600	BNSF	05/29/2015	THOMAS E GRAHAM	AF	0450	UP	06/05/2015
	*** March 2015 *	***			KENNETH W MILLER	BURL	1888	BNSF	05/29/2015	CECIL O TUCKER	CRSF	0076	CSXT	06/05/2015
JOHN J HILL	CRSF	2780	CSXT	03/01/2015	DAVID D OHMURA	BURNOR	1426	BNSF	05/29/2015	RONALD T JONES	USD	1709	UP	06/07/2015
DAVID W KLEINOW	USD	2430	DMER	03/01/2015	JOHN A JANGULA	USD	2431	DMER	05/29/2015	MIGUEL L SIMENTAL	USD	1002	UP	06/15/2015
MICHAEL A PROCTOR	USD	2430	DMER	03/03/2015	DALE O SAMUELSON	USD	1216	UP	05/29/2015	MICHAEL R HORKEY	USD	0519	UP	06/18/2015
DAVID B NEAR	CRSF	0882	CSXT	03/07/2015	RAYMOND S PALACIO	AT&SFF	2414	BNSF	05/30/2015	ARCHIE BOWLING JR	AF	1745	CSXT	06/23/2015
ROBERT M GERMANO	CRSF	1234	NS	03/31/2015	C A CHOJNACKI	BURL	1351	BNSF	05/30/2015	STEVE A LACEY	USD	0757	UP	06/23/2015
					CARLOS J DIAZ	BURL	0042	S00	05/30/2015	EDWARD C MENDOZA	USD	0686	UP	06/23/2015
	*** April 2015 *	**			GARY L HIMLE	BURL	1142	BNSF	05/30/2015	SERGIO E TORRES	AF	1254	UP	06/30/2015
CLAUDE B CLARKE	ASF	0572	NS	04/01/2015	JERALD TARASEWICZ	BURL	0099	S00	05/30/2015	MICHAEL LUC JR	PENN	3016	NS	06/30/2015
RANDY J THILMONY	BURNOR	0297	BNSF	04/01/2015	DONALD R GUPTILL	BURNOR	0295	BNSF	05/30/2015					

# BMWED to Conduct Research From Page 1

President Simpson asks the membership for their full participation, stating, "Membership input is absolutely critical to the success of this project, so please participate and encourage your Brothers and Sisters to fill out their forthcoming surveys. This is the chance of our lifetimes to improve safety and make a real difference in the lives of our current and future members. We need 100 percent membership participation to make that difference a reality."

# LOCAL

**LODGES** 

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

Call (248) 662-2660 extension 636.

JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2015

# BMWED organizes MOW workers From Page 1

an agreement setting rates of pay, rules and working conditions that cannot be changed unilaterally by the company.

The Indiana Railroad Company, headquartered in Indianapolis, is a 500-mile regional railroad operating in central and southern Indiana and central Illinois. Many of its MOW employees came off Class 1 railroads, including Norfolk Southern, CSX, and Canadian Pacific. Those employees lost their seniority when their lines were sold by those Class 1 railroads and the Interstate Commerce Commission and Surface Transportation Board determined their seniority, wages and benefits had to be sacrificed for financial transactions that benefited the Class 1 railroads and the Indiana Railroad Company.

"The BMWED is proud to be the elected representative of the maintenance of way employees on the Indiana Railroad Company," BMWED President Freddie N. Simpson said. "It is a duty and responsibility that we take seriously and sincerely, and our Brotherhood is stronger because of the faith these new 24 members have in our Union."

The organizing victory is a win for BMWED Director of Organizing Tim McCall and his Assistant Organizer Wayne Morrow. Brother McCall also wanted to extend much credit in the victory to Allied Fed Vice Chairmen Brian Thompson and Pat Quigley and Consolidated Rail System Federation Second Vice Chairman Jeff Bainter.

WE

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

**HEAR** 

**WANT TO** 

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

**FROM** 

YOU

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

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



# Philadelphia's Helen Gym Endorsed by BMWED



Director of Government Affairs Charlie Hogue

The Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes Division is proud to go on record and announce our endorsement of candidate, Helen Gym, who would go on to be elected to Philadelphia's City Council-At-Large. We believe Helen is the most qualified candidate to tackle the problems plaguing Philadelphia's school system. Helen shares many of the same sentiments as the BMWED and has proven herself to be a strong supporter of labor and fair wages. Helen has vowed to fight for Philadelphia's working families and promises to make sure that everyone, especially the poor and working class, have equitable access to city services.

"Our Union does not normally endorse candidates for local office. However, Helen Gym is clearly worthy of our support," Jed Dodd, General Chairman of the Pennsylvania Federation BMWED-IBT, stated. "Now and then a person comes along who seeks political office who is different and wants to represent the people and not some rich patron, corporation or themselves. Helen Gym is one of those rare exceptions in politics today and we can rest assured that her integrity, grit and compassion will be at work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week representing the working families of Philadelphia and only the working families of Philadelphia." Gym happily responded to the statement saying, "I'm incredibly honored to have the endorsement of an organization that values working families as much as I do, and pledge to continue fighting for schools, neighborhoods, and the values of working families throughout our great city."

In April of 2015 Helen Gym marched in solidarity with the



Helen Gym marching alongside Penn Fed General Chairman, Jed Dodd, and other BMWED members during the "March to End Poverty." April 4, 2015



Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way and other labor supporters during the MLK D.A.R.E Coalition, Fight for 15 "March to End Poverty." She joined members of the BMWED on the anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. and marched with the mission of bringing attention to crucial issues such as deep poverty, the need for a livable wage, and the right to organize; the same rights that MLK fought for up until his death. Helen said, "I'm honored to stand in solidarity with members of the MLK D.A.R.E Coalition and the Fight for 15 movement to honor the memory of Martin Luther King Jr.

by brining much-needed attention to the important issues he died fighting for." Gym continued, "As a mother of three children in Philadelphia's public schools and a former teacher, I've seen firsthand how issues of poverty and injustice in the workplace are harming our citizens of this great city. We need to work together to address these tough issues, and when I am elected to City Council I will continue to lend a voice to the struggle each and every day." Helen has had a long career participating social activism and advocating on behalf of social justice, even when it meant a great personal risk to herself. Gym was one of many Philadelphians who helped cofound the advocacy organization Parents United for Public Education. She also co-founded the School Notebook which is an independent newspaper that has reported on the conditions of public schools for the last 20 years.

Considered an upset by many, Helen's victory is a demonstration of a city clamoring for positive change. Though described as a newcomer, Helen has been a widely respected community activist and education advocate for years. Helen was among the top five Democratic vote-getters in the race for city-wide council seat. Gym narrowly beat her nearest competitor, Isaiah Thomas, who came in sixth by about 1,100 votes. Heading into November, the five winning Democrats and top five Republican finishers will vie to fill the seven atlarge Council seats. Two of the seven seats, however, are reserved for the minority party. Traditionally that's been the Republicans, but no longer, thus the Democrats are expected to maintain five of the seven seats.

Helen Gym is the right candidate to get the job done in Philadelphia. The BMWED is proud to have contributed to such a passionate and dedicated campaign. It is with great enthusiasm to be able to state that the BMWED helped get a candidate elected who is poised to create and continue a positive legacy in the city of Philadelphia. With the numbers on her side, Helen thanked her supporters in a post on her Facebook saying, "I'm incredibly grateful to countless Philadelphian's who supported an incredible campaign to uplift our communities and prioritize our youth. The real work begins today."

BMWEDJOURNAL

### Track Inspector's Good Deed Goes Viral

Reprinted with permission from Union Pacific Railroad. This story first appeared on UP's "Community Ties" website.

Josh Cyganik has waved to 75year-old Leonard Bullock every morning for the past four years.

Bullock's house sits across the street from a portion of the Union Pacific main line in Pendleton, Oregon, where Cyganik meets his co-workers every day to begin his work maintaining tracks across UP's western region. "He sits on that front porch all day long," Cyganik said. "I never talked to him. Not until I heard what those two kids said."

It was a sunny day in July when Josh overheard two teenagers comment that the house should be burned down because it was in such bad shape. "I saw the look on Leonard's face. I could tell the comment bothered him," Cyganik said. "I don't think any elderly person should have to endure what I heard from those two kids' mouths. I kind of stewed about it for a couple days before I decided to do something."

Determined to right the situation, Cyganik asked a few fellow railroaders to help out. He also asked his friend, Brian Christensen, manager of Tum-a-Lum Lumber, if he could donate some paint. "Brian was more than happy to donate supplies. After we had it all figured







out, I went and asked Leonard if it would be all right if we painted his house," Cyganik said. "He was ecstatic."

Worried he wouldn't have enough helping hands with only a

week's notice, Cyganik posted his story on Facebook with a plea to friends and family to support his effort. "My Facebook is private," Cyganik said, "but the post blew up like wildfire." The post was shared more than 6,000 times.

When Cyganik arrived at 8 a.m. on Saturday, July 18, about 20 volunteers already had shown up. Throughout the day strangers kept arriving to help, and by the end of the day more than 100 people had stopped by to lend a hand, including several Union Pacific employees.

"It was just a good vibe!
Everybody was happy and excited," Cyganik said. "We received a lot of additional donations from people who didn't come but wanted to help. People were dropping off food and drinks all day long. Starbucks even donated six gallons of water and iced tea."

### A Matter of Respect

The formerly white, blue and turquoise house now is a uniform warm beige, and thanks to more help from Tum-a-Lum Lumber, construction of a new porch is underway. Additional volunteers have purchased new outdoor furniture, and Cyganik and crew are looking for a roofer willing to donate time to complete the project.

"Yeah, it was a random act of kindness, but to me it's more about respect," Cyganik said. "I was raised to respect the people who came before you, to help others out who don't have much. Leonard can now sit on his front porch for the rest of his years while feeling good about his home."

Cyganik maintains that what he did was not a big deal. "According to the media, I'm a hero. I'm not a hero; I just heard something that bothered me," Cyganik said. "Anyone would have done the same thing. Everyone has it in their heart to do things like this."

Throughout this process, Cyganik learned quite a bit about Leonard Bullock. Bullock is a retired forklift driver. He met his wife, Dorothy, at a church in Walla Walla, Washington. They married in 2000. Bullock retired in 1995, but even with his monthly stipend he and Dorothy didn't have the funds to fix up their house. "They're great people," Cyganik said. "You never know about someone unless you get to know their struggles. It means everything to me that so many people from across the country showed up to help and get to know Leonard and Dorothy."

After all the paint brushes were cleaned, the supplies stored away, and the volunteers had gone home, Cyganik was still getting texts at 10 p.m. "My buddy told me that Leonard and Dorothy were still sitting on their porch in the dark, just grinning from ear to ear."

Josh Cyganik is a member of Unified System Division Local Lodge 874 and the BMWED is proud to call him Brother.

# Another class graduates from BMWED Advanced Officer Program

BMWED members from several System Federations gathered once again in Hendersonville, Tenn. to participate in the Brotherhood's two-week Advanced Officer Education Program this past July.

The Educationals take place at Volunteer State Community College, with curriculum focused on Union-specific subjects ranging from claims and grievance writing, negotiation prep, safety protection review ("whistleblower" laws), labor law and history (the Railway Labor Act, right-to-work-for-less legislation), discipline representation, conducting local lodge meetings, and effective Union communication. An emphasis on the Brotherhood's newly-implemented Communication Action Team was also included in this session, and several Front Line Communicators were recruited to help unite and prosper the future of our Brotherhood

The two-week Educational program began with the first class

in the summer of 2011. Since that time, hundreds of BMWED members have successfully completed

the rigorous coursework. Several BMWED system officers and national appointees are graduates of the class, proving the program can be a successful springboard to a more prominent Union role. Those graduates who remain in the BMWED rankand-file find that the program enhances their understanding and participation in the Brotherhood, and many skills are reinforced or developed during the two-week training.

Those interested in attending a future

Advanced Officer Education Program are encouraged to reach out to their respective General Chair-

person or call BMWED Project Coordinator Katie Fruzynski at 202-508-6446.



VP Speaks, From page 4

percent of surveys, while Wages as a #2 issue received 37.8 percent. Clearly, those two issues are the primary concern of our membership, as well as the leading focus of our leadership as we head deeper into National Bargaining.

While the survey is an important portion of our CAT program, the ability to meet with members at the worksite has been a truly remarkable and vital aspect of this campaign. Our presence on the property has been very well-received, and the conversations our Internal Organizers and Front Line Communicators are having on the ground with our rank-in-file are productive, enlightening and exciting. It is obvious that taking the CAT out to the jobsite is pro-

ducing encouraging results.

While face-to-face interaction is invaluable and impossible to replicate, we do still need ways to communicate important CAT and BMWED information. In the spring of 2014, the BMWED redoubled its efforts in social media, with a heavy concentration on Facebook. The "Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes Division" Facebook page has quintupled in size in just 18 months. In March 2014, the page had just shy of 800 followers. As of the end of September, that number hovers close to 4,100 and continues to grow by the hundreds every month.

On the BMWED's Facebook page, you can find Brotherhood news updates, newspaper stories on relevant rail and rail labor subjects, classic track work photographs, messages from BMWED members and leadership, as well as CAT team updates. Please click "like" on our Facebook page and encourage your Brothers and Sisters to do so as well.

Our CAT team is making great strides in connecting our rank-infile membership ahead of what will be a contested bargaining session and an unpredictable political climate. We are just getting started, but I am excited to see the early progress we have made. I believe the CAT program is vital to the health of our Brotherhood, and I am encouraged to see the traction we have made so far. I hope that you will stand in unity with us as our Brotherhood powers forward on this important project.

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# **DEATH BENEFIT DEPARTMENT**

### REPORT OF DEATH BENEFIT CLAIMS PAID DURING MARCH, APRIL, MAY AND JUNE, 2015

NAME	CITY/STATE	LODGE/SYSTEM/RR		D.O.D.
ROBERT D. BODIN	OGILVIE, MN	0928	BURL/LIFE	05/31/15
REYNOLD J CASIMIR	DENNISON, OH	3080	PENN/LIFE	05/20/15
JACK D. FAST	OSCEOLA, MO	0800	BURL/LIFE	02/15/15
FELIX N. FERNANDEZ	RATON, NM	2415	ATSFF/LIFE	01/23/15
WILLIAM L. GROSTEFFON	TEMPERANCE, MI	1664	CRSF/LIFE	11/10/14
WILLIAM M. GRUTZMACHER	ALTOONA, WI	0239	USD/LIFE	05/02/15
DONALD HERSHEY	COLUMBIA, PA	3011	PENN/LIFE	10/08/14
KENNETH R. HESS	CHAMBERSBURG, PA	3075	PENN/LIFE	03/21/15
MAX E. HOFFMAN	NEWBURG, MO	0493	ATSFF/LIFE	04/23/15
JAMES K. IVORY	FEDERAL WAY, WA	0757	USD/LIFE	01/09/15
ARTHUR JACOBSON	POWERS LAKE, ND	0750	BURNOR/LIFE	02/05/15
DELMAR D. NUNN	DAWSON, ND	0303	BURNOR/LIFE	02/19/15
BEUFORD G. PETERS	GYPSUM, KS	2405	ATSFF/LIFE	05/15/15
BLAIR RAGAN	ALBIA, IA	1832	BURL/LIFE	01/22/15
ERVEN RIEHART	HOT SPRINGS, AR	0473	USD/LIFE	02/12/15
JAMES F. SCACCO	BLODGETT, OR	0407	USD/LIFE	11/06/14
ALBERT E. SNAPP	ST. PAUL, MN	1393	ICGF/LIFE	05/05/15
BILLY D. SOWELL	JACKSON, TN	0657	ICGF/LIFE	04/23/15
PAID MAY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2	015		\$ 9,000.00	
AMOUNT PREVIOUSLY PAID			\$45,502,307.75	
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID TO DATE			\$45,511,307.75	
NUMBER OF CLAIMS PAID - 18				

REPORT OF DEATH NOTICES RECEIVED DURING MARCH, APRIL, MAY AND JUNE 2015

TYRELL L. ANDERSON	GERING, NE	0961	BURL/BNSF	05/25/15
RAYMOND F. DOWREY JR.	NASHUA, NH	0201	CRSF/KEOL	04/13/15
ROBERT D. DUFFIELD	KANKAKEE, IL	1259	CRSF/NS	05/23/15
LEONARD GARCIA	RIO RANCHO, NM	2415	ATSFF/BNSF	06/12/15
DONALD E. GOUDY JR.	HIGHLANDS, TX	1011	AF/UP	04/21/15
CELSO GUERRERO	KEWANEE, IL	1302	BUR/BNSF	02/02/15
STEVE T. ILES	LK. HAVASU CITY, AZ	2418	ATSFF/BNSF	04/03/15
STEPHEN T. JOYCE	ALLIANCE, NE	1214	BURL/BNSF	04/02/15
MICHAEL J. KENNEDY	SIDNEY, NE	0899	USD/UP	04/07/15
CHRISTOPHER R. KORTHOF	RADISSON, WI	1906	BURL/SOO	06/10/15
JAMES K. LAFLER	LOCKPORT, NY	0707	CRSF/CSXT	05/20/15
FERNANDO S. LOPEZ	WINFIELD, KS	2405	ATSFF/BNSF	06/10/15
RONALD L. PERKINS	BERRYSBURG, PA	3098	PENN/NS	05/02/15
DARRIN C. PETERSEN	NAMPA, ID	1381	USD/UP	04/23/15
ALVIN C. WILSON	RIDGEWAY, SC	1618	SOU/NS	03/28/15



# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

# Perhaps there is support for Unions after all?

This August, a Gallup poll revealed that 58 percent of Americans approve of labor unions. It was welcoming news for organized labor — a positive turn of public opinion from just six years ago, when the same polling company found only 48 percent supported unions (Gallup poll, 2009).

The newest polling coincided with the August 24th stock market nose dive, billed as "Manic Monday," where the Dow Jones took a plunge of 1,100 points in the first few minutes of trading. Markets are prone to peaks and valleys, but "Manic Monday" shook up Wall Street traders, who remain weak in the knees from the Great Recession of 2007.

There is a corresponding theme to the volatility of the stock market and the American public's renewed faith in unions. In an economy that is rigged to benefit only the rich, where real wages have stagnated for decades, and meager savings accounts have been tapped in order to stay afloat, the average American worker is worried about never reaching the finish line.

The Baby Boom generation is approaching retirement age. Estimates are approximately 77 million Boomers are within sight of retirement, at least age-wise. Financially set for retirement? Well,

that's an entirely different story.

You probably know some Boomers who have retired on their Railroad pensions. After 30, 40, even 50 years working on the tracks, their day finally arrived. A party was thrown, hugs and perhaps even tears were shed, and that Brother was sent off to enjoy the spoils of his or her Railroad Retirement. Everyone who has ever picked up a spike maul has looked ahead to the day their retirement becomes reality. But, when it comes to retirement, we are the fortunate ones.

Far too many Americans hard-working, talented, responsible, dedicated people — are living in financial instability. Working paycheck to paycheck, saving is all but impossible and retirement is out of reach. Opponents of defined pension plans, like our Railroad Retirement system, argue that prudent saving and strategic investment can replicate and replace pensions. However, that assumption is predicated on making enough money to save and invest, as well as having a stable and reliable stock market.

Unfortunately, pensions have disappeared for most Americans — replaced, in best cases, with more volatile 401Ks and IRAs, or in the case of underpaid workers, nothing

at all. For decades now, more and more American workers are facing the reality that their retirements are uncertain. For some, retirement may never arrive.

Wisconsin Governor and notorious Union hater Scott Walker's campaign for President of the United States lasted a scant 70 days. Less than a week after delivering what he hoped would be a campaign revitalizing anti-Labor stump speech, doubling down on his reputation for Union busting, Walker's poll numbers continued their nose dive into "no-chanceville." ("No-chance-ville" is in a right-to-work state, by the way). Walker's calling card as America's top Union buster not only got him zero traction in the race for the Republican nomination, it propelled him even further down the drain. I think that is particularly notewor-

For many American workers, it is rough going out there. Our organized railroad jobs are some of the best working class opportunities in the entire country. This does not go unnoticed to those who are stuck in jobs without Union representation. I truly believe that most Americans do not view Unions as an "enemy." They recognize that Unions exist to help the middle class. The ever-quick demise of

Scott Walker's presidential campaign is evidence of this. I suggest that the remaining Presidential candidates take note of it. Union busting is a losing strategy.

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### Sec-Treas, From Page 4

disability is something the IG and his allies have failed to address.

If this coordinated attack on our Occupational Disability is successful, we will wind up with an Occupational Disability benefit that is difficult or impossible to obtain, will be more costly for the applicant to pursue, and will provide benefits for only a short period of time. Of course, neither the IG nor the Carrier or Public Members of the Board have spent a lifetime walking on ballast, exposed to the debilitating effects of long-term repetitive

motion, and working outside in weather extremes that can cumulatively lead to BMWED members being unable to perform their railroad jobs after decades of wear and tear.

We again face trying times with our RRB Occupational Disability benefits, and powerful forces are arrayed against us. In response, President Simpson has appointed a committee to develop strategies and coordinate our fight against these unprecedented ideologically-centered attacks on our disability benefits

Occupational Disability pro-

vides a bridge for our sick and injured brothers and sisters to reach retirement without entering poverty. BMWED will not stand by and allow these attacks to go unanswered. The Brotherhood will continue to do everything in its power to defeat these attacks, including mobilizing the membership to save our Occupational Disability benefits. I know I can count on you to stand in solidarity as BMWED Brothers and Sisters to protect our hard-earned benefits from this politically motivated attack. An injury to one is an injury to all!



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

nd follow us on *Twitter* at **BMWEDIBT**.

**...** 

# **ROLL OF HONOR**

1 Dyear MERIT AWARD

BRADLEY J ADAMS 2005 SOU 0542 ERIC W ADKINS SOU 0660 2005 JAMES B AMON AF-SE 0153 2005 STEPHAN ANDERSON AF-SW 1048 2005 TRAVIS B ANDERSON BURL 0798 2005 AARON W ARNOLD BURL 1302 2005 J N ARTHERTON AF-SW 1365 2005 JEREMY K ASHBY AF-SW 0564 2005 JASON C ASPER BURNOR 0144 2005 ERICK G AVILA USD 0875 2005 DAVID W BAIL FY JR USD 0381 2005 IOSHIIA R BAKER AT&SFF 2406 2005 ADALBERTO C BALDENEGRO USD 0508 2005 AF-SW DAVID A BANKS 2762 2005 KEVIN E BAUGHMAN USD 0508 2005 JAMES M BEACH SOU 0546 2005 JAMES D BEASLEY AT&SFF 2033 2005 DAYLE S BERNER AT&SFI 2410 2005 **BRIAN R BIBBS** C&EI 0063 2005 CRSF 2225 2005 JOSEPH L BILLS DENNY J BINGHAM USD 2005 1071 RUSSELL J BIRCH **ICGF** 2834 2005 TRAVIS Q BISHOP AF-SW 0345 2005 FRIC I BLACKLEDGE AT&SFF 0493 2005 THOMAS W BLACKWELL AT&SFF 2411 2005 CARL T BOHANNON 0660 2005 SOU BRET A BONDEGARD USD 0899 2005 AF-SW B J BOOTHE 0522 2005 DENNIS A BORAK AF-SW 2762 2005 TIMOTHY BOREK PENN 3082 2005 LARRY P BRADY BURL 0798 2005 MARK A BRANDENBURG BURL 0798 2005 MICHAEL W BRATTON AF-SW 0450 2005 KEVIN L BRINKMAN USD 0875 2005 RICHARD C BRODT BURL 0798 2005 **BRETT S BROWN** ΝE 1743 2005 KENNETH LBROWN AF-SW 1254 2005 BRIAN W BROWN USD 0508 2005 MICHAEL S BRUECKNER BURL 1108 2005 RANDALL F BRUMFIFLD ICGF 1539 2005 BURNOR 0236 2005 LARRY W BUCK JASON M BURBAGE USD 0508 2005 BEN JAMIN E BURI ESON AT&SFF 2005 1600 ROBERT W BURWELL BURL 0798 2005 SCOTT A BUSHONG BURL 2005 CODY C BUTLER USD 0968 2005 LARRY K CAGNET ASF 0287 2005 **BRIAN K CALDWELL** ASF 0571 2005 0657 **GUY C CALDWELL** ICGF 2005 BRANDON I CALHOUN AT&SFF 0493 2005 BRIAN CALKINS RURNOR 0272 2005 PATRICK I CALLAWAY USD 0134 2005 JOEL A CALVILLO USD 2005 0941 ROBERT V CAMPBELL 0636 2005 SOU ANDY S CANAS USD 0899 2005 HECTOR L CARMEGA PENN 3068 1997 JOE R CARRASCO AT&SFI 2415 2005 **VYRON K CARTER** AF-SW 2005 WILLIAM R CHASE USD 1002 2005 BURL MARIO B HERNANDEZ DANIEL R CHEEK 0798 2005 JASON A CHENEY F-SW 1012 2005 JASON M HICKMAN BOB CLARK AF-SW 1099 2005 IFREMY W HILL DERWIN W COCKERHAM SECUNDINO PHINOJOSA AT&SFF 2409 2005 THOMAS D COLVIN USD 0875 2005 ROBERT B HOBSON DANIFL R COLWELL BURI 0798 2005 DANE C HOBSON LARRY J HOCHSTETLER JAMES F CORRIGAN AT&SFF 1082 2005 MATHEW D COVARRUBIAS BURL 1302 2005 JUSTIN R HODGE JOSE COVARRUBIAS USD 0899 2005 JUSTIN J HOFELDT TIMOTHY J CRAWFORD BURL 0230 2005 MICHAEL S HOLLAND

JESUS M DIAZ KEITH B DICKENS USD JUSTIN D DIEHL AT&SFF 2402 DARRIN W DILLINGER BURI STEVE K DODGE USD SHANE E DOUGLAS AT&SFF 2402 JAY D DOYLE USD JEREMY J DREITZ AF-SW WAYLON DU BOIS BURNOR 0158 REX C DUGGER JR SOU STEVEN B DUNCAN AT&SFF BRANDON A DUPUY AF-SW EDWARD J DWYER BURNOR 0272 **BURL BRADLEY S EAKIN** AT&SFF DUSTIN L EASLEY BURL JOE H EDDINS, JR AT&SFF 2409 BRYCE A FDMONDSON AF-SW GARY B FILLOTT AT&SFF JAMES A FILIS ICGF JACOB P FNGALDO BURI MICHAEL E ENGLEBY C&EI JASON A EVANS BURL **CURT T EVANS** AT&SFF 0745 MICHAEL A EVANS ASF RANDY R FEATHERLING C&EI C&EI BRADLEY K FERRO PENN ANDREW G FIELD BURNOR ALAN B FIELDS AT&SFF IORGE FIGUEROA USD BRAD R FINI FY RHRI DOUGLAS R FINLINSON USD D I FITCH C&FI MICHAEL R FITZWATER USD RICKY L FLIPPIN AF-SW TIMOTHY W FLYNN BURL CHRISTOPHER FRANKLIN **ICGF** ROGER FRANKLUND BURNOR JONATHAN R GARCIA AT&SFF TROY A GARDNER SOU AF-SW STEVE W GARGAC PERRY K GELLER JR CRSF PAUL G GENNARO **ICGF** DIRK D GII MAN AF-SW JOSHUA D GOLLOB USD ADRIAN M GONZALES AF-SW MARIO GONZALEZ USD JUSTIN W GONZALEZ USD JOSEPH C GRAHAM ASF THOMAS G GRANT SOU VERNON GREER JR AT&SFF ANTHONY W GROGAN AT&SFF FELIPE A GUDINO USD CHARLES A GUTHRIE AT&SFF DIEGO GUTIERREZ BURL GUY A HABY AF-SW WILLIAM M HALFY CRSF CORDICE L HAMILTON IR SOLL AF-SW JAMES I HARPER CARLOS M HARRIS AT&SFF VINCE L HAWTHORNE AT&SFF MICHAEL M HAYES USD TANNER D HEDRICK AT&SFF ROBERT D HENSON BURNOR **BRADLEY J HERMAN** 

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CHARLES J HOLMES

LARRY C HOOLEY

JOSHUA P HOYT

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DAVID B HUBBARD

KEVIN J HUME

NARVELL HUNT

DAVID I HUSLEY

RYAN L INGRAM USD LLOYD ISAAC AF-SW **ROBERT JACK** AF-SW JOSHUA P JACOBSON BURL KEVIN H JANSSEN BURNOR TRAVIS M JARES BURNOR CHRISTOPHER M JENSEN USD SAMMY Y JOE AT&SFF RICHARD M JOHNS AT&SFF ROBERT T JOHNS AT&SFF JIMMIE I JOHNSON AT&SFF DANIFI J JOHNSON CRSF ALEX N JOHNSON USD AT&SFF JONATHAN CJONES DAVID A JONES USD AF-SW LEONARD O JOSEPH LEANDER KEE AT&SFF BENNY M KELLY JR AF-SW SETH G KESSLER BURL AF-SW TOMMY C KING AT&SFF DANIEL R KINZER **BURL** JAMES C KIRKPATRICK BURNOR RALPH LKISSFLBLIRG AF-SW CHAD I KLEIN CRSF BEN JAMIN M KLUKAS BURNOR ANDREW S KNUPP PENN CHRISTIAN J KOWALESKI BURNOR **GRANT S KRIENERT** USD GEORGE E KUBERSKI BURL ROBERT J KUEHLER AF-SW JEREMY C LAMBERT ASF JOSEPH F LANGLEY AF-SW BRIAN T LAW BURNOR PAYTON M LEE SR ASF RICHARD H I FFFFRS USD JAMES A LEINBERGER BURL MICHAEL RIESTER ΔF-SF AVFRY STFWIS AF-SW BRADLEY TLINES JR PENN MARIO DI OCKETT AF-SW CACHE R LOUNSBURY USD MANUEL O LOZANO AT&SFF DAVID J LUCAS BURNOR JASON M LUEDDECKE AF-SW RICHARD D LYNCH AF-SW ROMON MACIAS AF-SW ZACHARY D MADER BURL SCOTT A MADISON BURL TONY R MAGNETT AF-SW MICHAFI MAITI AND BURNOR TIMOTHY W MANDRY AF-SW DARIUS B MARCHANT SOU BURNOR KENNETH W MARSHALL BURNOR MARIO MARSHALL ALDEN C MARTIN BURL WILLIAM D MASON AF-SE ROBERT A MAURER CRSF JONATHAN L MAYNARD ASF STEPHEN A MC CARTNEY AF-SW GREGORY B MC CLENDON **ICGF** KEITH J MC CLURE AF-SW CASEY MC CREA RURNOR GRANT MC CREADY BURNOR JOSEPH R MC DERMOTT USD FDWARD M MC DOUGALL USD

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ANDRES MEDRANO

JOSE S MERGY

DARIUS S MIKEL

ANDREW MILLER

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BRIAN P MOODY

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JOHN D MORRIS JR

**CURTIS E MORRISON** 

TRENTON J MOYERS

JAMES C MUDD

C M MURRAY

JAMES S MULLINS

DAREN W MORRIS

BRADLEY A MILLER

ANDREW D MINGUS

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KEVIN A NADLER CHRIS NELSON JOHN C NELSON SHANE J NELSON KENNETH W NILSEN **ZACH T NUNU** TIM P O BRIEN LOGAN J O NEIL CHAD M OHLHEISER NATHAN G OLESON MICHAEL OLIVERSON FFLIPF ONSURF7 VINCE M ORTEGON DAVID ORTIZ DANIEL L OSBORNE DANIEL W PAINTER STEVE PANDO EDMOND M PANEITZ ANTHONY L PANELLA EDWARD M PARDO LESLIE D PARRISH DEAN D PATTERSON ROGER A PAWLU DAVID S PENIA DENNIS M PENCE MIKE A PERALES GILBERTO PEREZ ERIC L PEREZ ANDREW S PHILLIPS JACOB S PIPER JAMESON D POINT **BRIAN PORTER GREGORY K POWERS** TRAVIS L POWERS MICHAEL WOUALLS MICHAEL R RAGARD FRIC K RAINEY PEDRO RAMOS CLIFFORD J RAPIER DONNY R RICHMOND ORLANDO L RIDDLE ANTHONY M RIDINGS MICHAEL L ROACH CASEY W ROAT JEFF L ROBERTS RAUL R RODRIGUE7 GREGORY S ROGERS DANIEL V RO IO MARTIN F ROSALES DANA S ROSS JASON RUPERTO SAMUEL F SAILLER EDWARD SALAZAR JR JAMES C SAMMONS BARRY L SAMUELSON LUCAS A SCHULL **NOLAN S SHAW** TERRENCE SHINE RILLIE I SHIPP JASON R SHOTT SCOTT L SIMS GENE H SISCO VANCE L SISK RYAN J SLOAN NOLAN M SMITH **BLAKELY J SMITH** JAMES P SMITH EDWARD M SMITH R J SMITH

DOUGLAS J PETERSON WILLIE RICHARDSON JR THOMAS B RICHTSTEIG DARRELL B ROBERTSON JOHNNY R SANDERS JR CHRISTOPHER A SIEBER PARSOPSUKA B SODSAIKITCH

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DARIN D STEARLEY

JONATHAN L STEPHEY

RODNEY W STEWART

JERRY C STUART JR

JEFFREY K SUDDERTH

JASON J STULTS

JOE W SURFACE

IASON P TATAFII

DAWAYNE A STRUTTMAN

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BURNOR Roll of Honor, Continued on Page 13

ALLAN E DA COSTA

TREVOR J DANIELS

ANTHONY W DAVID

ZACK N DANIEL

JAMES E DAVIS

RYAN J DE JONG

NELSON A DIAL

WILLIAM P DEWITT

USD

USD

USD

RHRI

C&FI

AT&SFF

BURNOR

AT&SFF

1096

2407

1227

1092

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1002

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2005

2005

### **Roll of Honor**, From Page 13

JAMES E TAYLOR	USD	1071	2005
SHANE T TEMPFER	USD	1227	2005
RANDY D TERRELL	USD	0508	2005
C D THALMAN	C&EI	1003	2005
PERRY G THOMAS	SOU	0808	2005
CLINT THOMAS	USD	1002	2005
T B THOMPSON	AF-SW	1058	2005
FREDDIE D THORNBURG JR	AF-SW	2717	2005
DARRIN K THURMAN	ICGF	1539	2005
B D TIMBES	AF-SW	0203	2005
MICHAEL A TINNA	PENN	0935	2005
ISAACK TIZCARENO	USD	0875	2005
JASON R TURNER	SOU	0619	2005
SHANNON R TURNER	AF-SW	0450	2005
TOMMY J ULIBARRI	AT&SFF	2415	2005
MIGUEL A URIBE	USD	0686	2005
KEITH A VALENTINE	AT&SFF	2417	2005
JOHN A VANDERLICK	CRSF	1350	2005
JAMES G VANDERSYS	BURL	1320	2005
WILLIAM J VARNEY	ASF	0551	2005
JESSE M VASQUEZ	AF-SW	2717	2005
WILFREDO VAZQUEZ	CRSF	0201	2005
ERIC R VENARD	AT&SFF	2406	2005
RICKY S VIDAURRI	AT&SFF	2409	2005
AARON N VILLARREAL	AT&SFF	2409	2005
PATRICK C VILLEGAS	USD	1862	2005
BEN J VILLNOW	BURNOR	1055	2005
JAMES M WAHLEN	BURL	1965	2005
JACOB R WALKER	SOU	0619	2005
ROBIN C WALL	ASF	0226	2005
MICHAEL P WALLACE	ICGF	1539	2005
JOHN C WALTERS	AT&SFF	2600	2005
JASON A WARREN	AT&SFF	2413	2005
MATTHEW D WARREN	USD	0875	2005
CORNELL WASHINGTON	USD	0757	2005
CHARLES R WATTS	ICGF	1539	2005
STEVEN F WAWRYK JR	BURL	1302	2005
TREY J WELLENSTEIN	BURNOR	0158	2005
GERALD A WELLS	ΝE	1368	2005
CHRISTOPHER W WHITE	AT&SFF	2600	2005
JASON B WHITE	SOU	0660	2005
JAMES C WILSON	USD	0899	2005
JOSHUA G WILSON	AT&SFF	2403	2005
DERRICK L WILSON	AF-SW	1058	2005
DANNY W WOOD	USD	1148	2005
ROBERT L WOODWARD III	USD	0508	2005
JOHN D WOODYARD JR	USD	1133	2005
JERRED S WOOLARD	AF-SW	0450	2005
RICHARD A WYATT JR	AF-SW	0345	2005
ANTHONY C YBARRA	AF-SW	2286	2005
EDUARDO A ZAMUDIO	AF-SW	1365	2005
DUANE D ZOBROSKY	BURL	0798	2005

# 20 year

IVI L IX I I	A W A	K D	
CORY W BARKER	BURL	1108	1995
JOSEPH C BARR	PENN	3009	1995
CHRIS L BARTOW	BURL	2852	1995
ROBERT C BAYNE	PENN	3068	1992
FREDRIC W BIGMAN	AT&SFF	2400	1995
RANDY K BOLEN JR	WCSD	1710	1995
SCOTT A BROWN	CRSF	0109	1995
ALLAN A BROWN	AT&SFF	1600	1995
G T BROWN	AF-SE	2162	1995
PATRICK A CHRISTMAN	BURL	2852	1995
JONATHAN R COX	BURNOR	1426	1995
W S CUNNINGHAM	ASF	0580	1995
JOHN R DEISSLER	PENN	3068	1991
JAMES S DOWNS	ICGF	1171	1990
MICHAEL R DUMONT	CRSF	0201	1995
CHRIS A EDWARDS	ICGF	0637	1995
E C FEAGIN	EJ&E	0463	1995
TIMOTHY A FORBES	BURNOR	1426	1995
STEVEN L FRAME	CRSD	2910	1995
KENNETH FRAZIER JR	ASF	1464	1995
CHRISTOPHER A GALLOWAY	CRSF	0201	1995
J L GARRETT	SOU	0636	1995
DANIEL GAYTON	AT&SFF	2412	1995
DAWN M GOODWELL	CRSF	0176	1995
ERVIN D GOODWIN	EJ&E	0358	1995
LAWRENCE GRAZIANO	CRSD	2907	1995
TED E HAMPLE	BURNOR	0272	1995

CLINT A HARDY **BURNOR** 0272 1995 MIKE R HIGHLAND WCSD 1995 1710 AT&SFF I ARRY HOSTEFN 2400 1995 J P JOHNSON AF-SF 0056 1995 EDISON JONES **AT&SFF** 2400 1995 SHAUN M KFFNAN **CRSF** 0160 1992 BURNOR FALK KEMPH 0272 1995 WILLIAM T KENDRICK 1992 PENN 3068 EMERY L KOSTURA PENN 0400 1995 DONAVAN LEE AT&SFF 1995 ANDREW LOPEZ USD 1995 GERALD D MAACK II BURNOR JOSHUA P MC ADOO BURNOR 1995 ALPHONSE MC INTOSH 1995 PENN 3089 BEN A MC NEIL BURNOR 1763 1995 THOMAS K MILLS RHRI 1142 1995 GARY L MINER CRSF 0109 1995 CARL R MONTGOMERY BURI 2621 1995 BERNARD F NOOT BURNOR 1426 1995 C PATTON JR AF-SE 2426 1995 JOSEPH M PETRUSKA PENN 0400 1995 JEFFREY T POWELL ASF 1995 NAPOLEON REECE **ICGF** 0652 1995 **GENARO REYES** CRSF 1995 AT&SFF KENNETH J RHEA 1995 BRADLEY N RITTEL JR BURL 1995 RAYMOND ROBINSON AT&SFF 1995 R C ROGERS AF-SF 0056 1995 DAVID S ROLLINS PENN 3068 1995 MARTIN C SANDOVAL USD 0508 1995 **RUDYS O SANTANA** CRSD 2905 1995 JAMES J SCHERER 1995 BURL 1214 PERCY I SHARKEY ICGF 1165 1995 MARK A SHIVELY ASF 0599 1995 DONELL SMITH ICGF 0637 1995 J L STALLARD 1995 ASF 0599 ALLEN E STEVENS **ICGF** WILLIAM M STOCKWELL MARK F STRECKER BURL 1995 JEFF G SUTTORP BURNOR 0272 1995 LARRY W TANT SOU 0536 1995 JAKE E TYNER BURI 1489 1995 DARYL D UNDERWOOD **CRSFNP** 1664 1995 SHANE M WALLACE BURNOR 0309 1995 RON W WARREN JR FJ&F 0463 1995 STACEY A WEAVER 1142 1995 BURL JAMES D WHITE JR 1995 ASF 0568



SOU	0808	1985
SOU	0536	1985
AF-SW	1176	1985
AF-SE	1038	1985
AF-SE	0671	1985
USD	0216	1985
AF-SW	1365	1985
PENN	3068	1976
SOU	0673	1985
SOU	0529	1985
SOU	0627	1985
USD	0941	1985
ASF	1700	1985
SOU	0673	1985
ΝE	1632	1985
AF-SW	0675	1985
USD	1246	1985
AF-SW	0675	1985
SOU	0585	1985
AF-SE	2163	1985
AF-SW	2762	1985
SOU	0529	1985
PENN	3068	1980
	SOU AF-SW AF-SE USD AF-SW PENN SOU SOU USD ASF SOU N E AF-SW USD AF-SW USD AF-SW SOU AF-SW SOU AF-SE AF-SW SOU	SOU       0536         AF-SW       1176         AF-SE       1038         AF-SE       0671         USD       0216         AF-SW       1365         PENN       3068         SOU       0673         SOU       0529         SOU       0627         USD       0941         ASF       1700         SOU       0673         N E       1632         AF-SW       0675         USD       1246         AF-SW       0675         SOU       0585         AF-SE       2163         AF-SW       2762         SOU       0529



JOHN T AUSTIN AF-SW 1011 1975 CARL L BALL AF-SE 0885 1975 LARRY W BAHMANN ΔF-SF 0424 1975 DAVID W BENNER PFNN 3075 1975 WAITER I BLAND PFNN 3004 1975 DANA D BOOTH AF-SF 1064 1975 JIMMIE BOWLING 0225 AF-SE 1975 ROBERT F BRINEY BURL 1320 1975 ROBIN T BURMEISTER WCSD 1975 2929 KENNETH R CAIN SR AF-SE MODESTO M CANTU USD PABLO M CANTU 1975 VICTOR G CONTRERAS USD 1975 0922 MALCOLM B DAVISON AF-SW 1365 1975 ROBERT K DOTY AF-SE 0737 1975 I ARRY FDSALL ΔF-SF 0460 1975 DAN W EHRHARD HSD 0325 1975 LAWRENCE M FN7F JR BURNOR 0908 1975 JOHN F FIGHTMASTER AF-SF 1975 0885 ROBERT C FORSHEY PENN 3009 1975 URRVANO GAMEZ BURL 0961 1975 CLARK A GAYDOS PFNN 3047 1975 LEWIS J GETTERT BURL 1142 1975 ALBERT C HALE BURNOR RAYMOND E HALL JR AF-SE 1975 LONNIE A HANCOCK 1975 BURL 1903 AF-SE JAMES B HORSLEY 1975 DAVID M JONES CRSF 1978 1975 TIMOTHY J LYONS BURL 1316 1975 IOHN R MARENHOL7 ΝF 1718 1975 GARY D MARTIN AF-SF 1162 1975 JOSEPH R MAXWELL JR PENN 1975 3005 ROGER I MEYER AF-SF 0460 1975 BRIAN K MOSES BURNOR 1975 1055 CRAIG R MOSES BURNOR 1055 1975 W H MURRAY JR PFNN 3047 1975 RICHARD W PAPST MICHAEL D PHILLIPS 1975 THOMAS E PIERCE 1975 CRSF AF-SE CHARLES M POPOVICH JR 1975 1432 TED C RITTENHOUSE AF-SE 0153 1975 J M RODRIGUE7 AF-SW 0644 1975 A S SALAZAR **ICGF** 0694 1975 IFFF R SHONKWII FR ASF 0226 1975 RONALD R SMALLWOOD PFNN 3004 1975 **BILLY J SMITH** AF-SE 1038 1975 ANTHONY C STORBECK BURL 1975 1108 **EVAN H STROMBERG** CRSF 1657 1975 GLENN L TREXLER PENN 3047 1975



PENN

STEPHEN E VINGLAS

MICHAEL L WADE

JOHN D WATSON

JIMMIE CRUZ	BURL	1351	1955
LAWRENCE W ERICKSON	BURNOR	0249	1955
JOSEPH W GUILLORY	AF-SW	1048	1955
JACK B HIGGINS	AF-SW	0203	1955
HENRY J HUELSMAN	BURNOR	1296	1955
ALEX B MEDINA	USD	0686	1955
DONALD OTTO	BURNOR	0249	1955
JAMES R PRESCOTT	BURNOR	0303	1955
THOMAS D WRIGHT	AF-SE	0563	1955



# 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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# **Around the Brotherhood**

# **Brother Conrad Hundley, Allied Fed E-Board member, retires**

Brother Conrad K. Hundley, BMWED Allied Federation Executive Board member and Secretary of Lodge 2162, retired this August after 40-plus years of railroad service. Brother Conrad is pictured here receiving a certificate of achievement from Allied Fed Vice Chairman Russell Farmer.



### **Local Lodge 991 general meeting**

Members of BMWED Consolidated Rail System Federation Local Lodge 991 in Elkhart, Indiana gathered on Aug. 20, 2015 for a general meeting to discuss issues at worksites and the good and welfare of the Brotherhood.



# LABOR members attend educational convention

The Labor Alliance for the Brotherhood of Rail (LABOR) Executive Board and members attended the group's annual educational convention in Gulfport, Mississippi on June 13. Seated (from left) are Andrew Clark, Murphy Evans, Bryant Moses, and Andrew Shelton. Standing (from left) are Roger Sanchez, Rob Sonny, Carmen Nunes, Jorge Flores, Ramiro Ramirez, Kristina Delgado, Nathaniel Trawick, and Tim McCall.



# Brotherhood Amtrak retirees host annual luncheon

Two dozen Amtrak (and predecessor railroad) retirees from various crafts attended an annual luncheon in Westbrook, Connecticut on July 8, 2015. The annual luncheon, as well as



monthly breakfast get-togethers, are coordinator by retired BMWED Brother Tommy Nall (standing, second from left).

# BSD Lodge 509 hosts seventh annual summer picnic

Active and retired members of BMWED Burlington System Division Lodge 509 gathered in Stoddard, Wisconsin in August for their seventh annual summer picnic. Lodge members and their families enjoyed the day of fellowship and camaraderie and hope to see everyone again next year. BSD Lodge 509 encourages every one of its members to attend next summer, and to bring along another member in the hopes of growing the attendance.



ATB, Continued on Page 15

# BMWED hosts last local lodge officer training for 2015

BMWED local lodge officers gathered in Phoenix, Arizona Sept. 15 and 16 for a collection of training seminars and a general information session on Brotherhood matters.

Many of the attendees are newly elected local lodge presidents, secretary-treasurers and local lodge officers. In training classes hosted yesterday, lodge officers strengthened their skills in conducting union meetings, overseeing lodge finances, filing claims and grievances and handling union affairs.

The Phoenix training is the last of 2015. Local lodge officers who are interested in attending future trainings in 2016 can contact BMWED Project Coordinator Katie Fruzynski at katie@bmwe.org.



### **Brother Kenneth C. Blount retires**

BMWED Allied Federation Brother Kenneth C. Blount or Lodge 1058, retired in August after 38 years as a BMWED member. Brother Blount is pictured here receiving an honorary plaque from BMWED South Region Vice President Roger Sanchez (left) and Local 1058 President Jorge Flores (right).





JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2015

# 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)



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

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