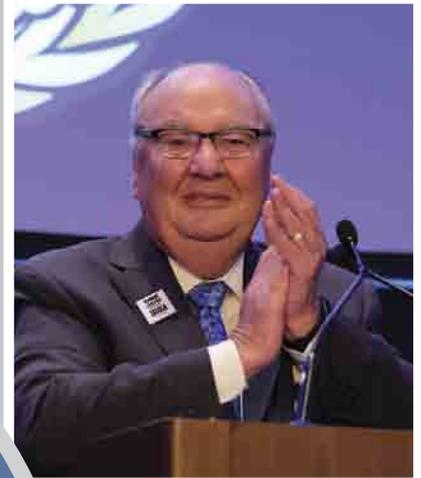
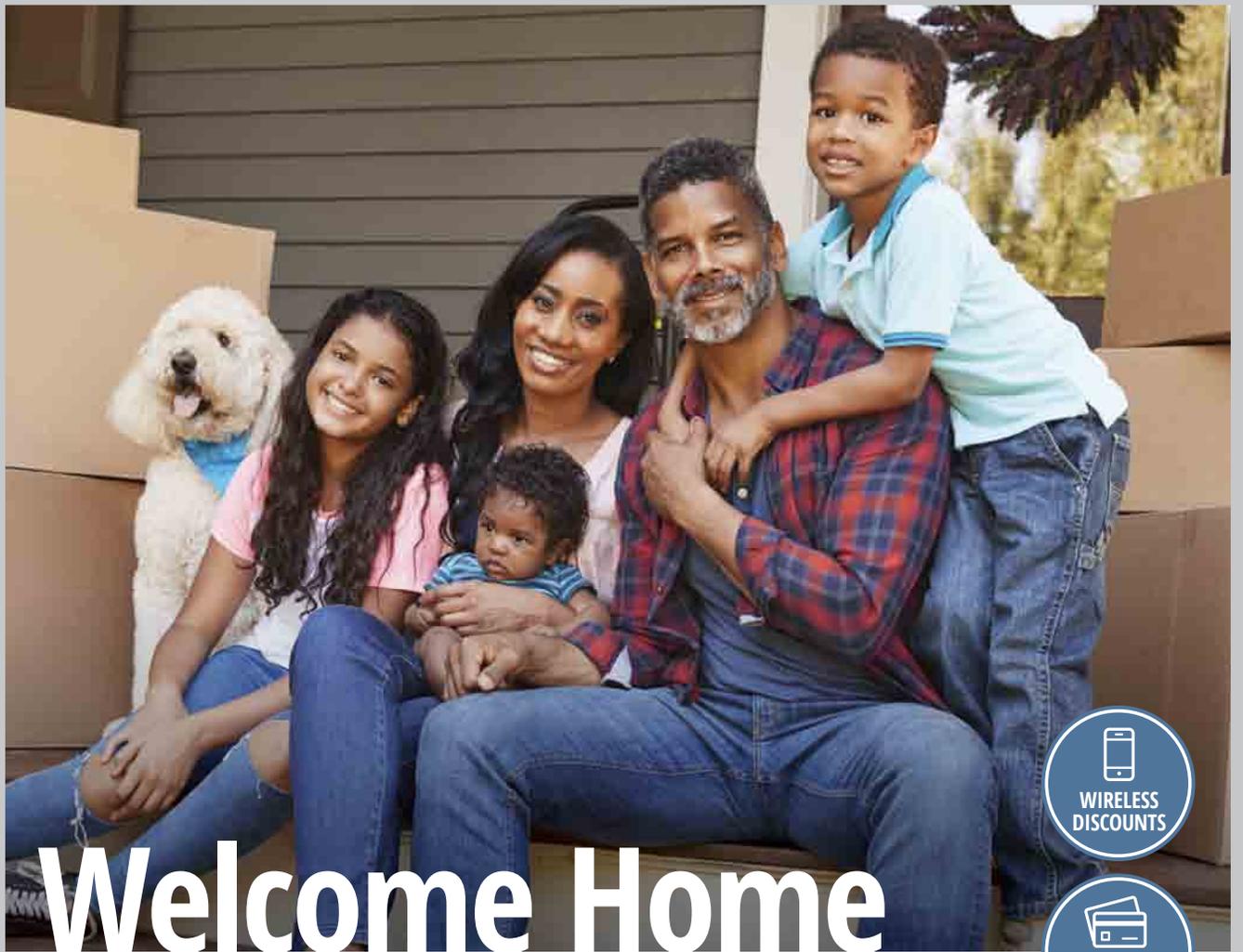




*The* **SIGNALMAN'S JOURNAL**

Volume 99  
3RD QUARTER 2018





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## DIRECTORY

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS:**  
917 Shenandoah Shores Road  
Front Royal, VA 22630-6418  
(540) 622-6522 Fax: (540) 622-6532  
signalman@brs.org

**Floyd E. Mason, President**  
(ext. 525) • fmason@brs.org

**Jerry Boles, Secretary-Treasurer**  
(ext. 527) • jcb@brs.org

**Kelly Haley, Vice President Headquarters**  
(ext. 524) • kelly@brs.org

**John Bragg, Vice President NRAB**  
(ext. 524) • jbragg@brs.org

**Brandon Elvey, Director of Research**  
(ext. 596) • bee@brs.org

**Cory Claypool, Grand Lodge Representative**  
(ext. 595) • clc@brs.org

**Mike Efaw, Grand Lodge Representative**  
(ext. 571) • mle@brs.org

**WASHINGTON OFFICE:**  
815 16th Street NW, 4th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20006

**Leonard Parker, National Legislative Director**  
(202) 637-5382 • lparker@brs.org

**FIELD VICE PRESIDENTS:**  
**Joe Mattingly, Vice President Midwest**  
400 Contessa Lane, Trenton, KY 42286  
(270) 466-0405 • jim@brs.org

**Mike Baldwin, Vice President West**  
917 Shenandoah Shores Road, Front Royal, VA 22630  
(540) 622-6522 (ext. 531) • msb@brs.org

**Jim Finnegan, Vice President  
Commuter, Passenger, Transit**  
917 Shenandoah Shores Road, Front Royal, VA 22630  
(540) 622-6522 (ext. 568) • jimfinnegan@brs.org

**Tim Tarrant, Vice President East**  
917 Shenandoah Shores Road, Front Royal, VA 22630  
(540) 622-6522 (ext. 565) • tmt@brs.org

**William L. Phillips, General Counsel**  
33 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60602  
(847) 644-1901 • wlp@brs.org

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**  
**Mike Owens, Chairman**  
13022 County Line Road, Crown Point, IN 46307  
(219) 988-2393

**Gus Demott, Secretary**  
P.O. Box 888, Clinton, SC 29325  
(864) 938-0353

**John McArthur, Member**  
P.O. Box 960639, El Paso, TX 79996  
(775) 846-1794

**OFFICERS EMERITUS:**  
**V.M. "Butch" Speakman, Jr., President Emeritus**  
14212 Viola Place, Huntley, IL 60142

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## Canadian Pacific — Soo Line Railroad Company BRS Members Ratify Agreement

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## *The Turn of the Tide of Success*

The Turn of the Tide of Success, this was what Thomas Jefferson called the first major Patriot victory after the British victories in Charleston and Camden, South Carolina. Major General Charles Cornwallis felt confident he could move his army against North Carolina. He assigned Major Patrick Ferguson and Loyalists to secure lands east and west of the Blue Ridge Mountains; the campaign initially dispersed numerous uncoordinated rebel militia. Ferguson threatened to march his army west over the mountains, hang their leaders and “lay the country waste with fire and sword.” In what is today’s western North Carolina and Tennessee, resistance was ignited. These Patriots who did not swear allegiance to the King gathered under Colonel William Campbell, marched four days through the snow, and began searching for Ferguson and his 1000 Loyalists. These “over mountain men” were skilled hunters, could handle rough terrain, were adept at killing moving prey, and did not like threats to their homes and land.

Ferguson set up camp on King’s Mountain, in present day South Carolina, near what is now Charlotte, North Carolina. Campbell’s smaller group of militiamen found Ferguson. Campbell surrounded and advanced up the ridge, firing rifles, which were hunting weapons used regularly by families on the frontier. British Loyalists were armed mainly with muskets and bayonets designed for short-range fighting. When the Loyalists made bayonet and short-range attacks, as was customary, Americans withdrew, hid in the rugged terrain they were accustomed to, and returned the attack. Gradually, the ring

closed around Ferguson and the Loyalists. Ferguson was shot dead from his horse, and the Loyalists raised the white flag. The American victory devastated Cornwallis and Loyalist support for the British in the South. The battle ended with 29 Patriots dead and 58 wounded;

Loyalists suffered 250 losses with 163 wounded and 668 captured. Cornwallis was forced to withdraw into South Carolina. A little over a year after the battle at King’s Mountain, Washington accepted the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

***“Janus is not about free speech, it is about reducing our power that we have gained through our collective voice, our good wages and benefits that provide for our families...”***

Historians consider the Battle of King’s Mountain to be the turning point in the South in America’s War for Independence. A war fought against overwhelming forces with what, at first, seemed little chance of success.

Today, organized labor, including rail labor, and Signalmen face a similar threat to lay waste our home and countryside, through the Supreme Court Ruling in *Janus v. the American Federation of State, Municipal and County Employees (AFSCME)*. In a perverted interpretation of First Amendment Rights, purportedly to protect the right of free speech, the Supreme Court undermined the interests of America’s public sector employees. Some in the rail industry now want to jump on this gravy train to steal from their employees. With the decision, public-sector employees around the nation will no longer have to pay union dues as required by so-called fair share laws, an outcome of a previous court decision called *Abood v. Detroit Board of Education*. In Abood’s case, it was held that public school teachers in Detroit would have to pay fees or dues to cover the costs of collective bargaining for their improved wages and benefits.

The Janus Decision, which overturns the Abood precedent, is the result of a shell, Mark Janus, an employee of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, who argued that his union's attempts to negotiate on his behalf did not take into account the fiscal crises in Illinois and that he basically disagreed with the union's position in trying to negotiate for higher wages and benefits. This so-called free speech argument was supported by the majority opinion in Janus, written by Justice Samuel Alito, ruling that states and public-sector unions "may no longer extract agency fees from nonconsenting employees... The procedure violates the First Amendment and cannot continue." This shell, after the damage was done, went to work for the Illinois Policy Institute, an anti-union think tank that helped take "his" case to the Supreme Court. This was not about free speech for public workers; it was a well-orchestrated effort by well-financed groups that want to undermine the collective power of public sector unions and the overall labor movement. There is some effort to spread the application of this miscarriage of justice to some of our brothers and sisters on commuter rail.

Firstly, the Janus Decision was not about railroads or Signalmen, we are covered under different laws, governing different agreements, for a different group of hard working Americans. Secondly, like the over mountain men, we are skilled, rugged, and willing to hunt down, and surround those that threaten our homes and way of life. If they threaten our standard of living, which we have earned through hard work, determination, and years of training and experience, by threatening our Union, we will band together and take the fight to them. The over mountain men, 238 years ago this very month, fought against the Loyalists initially only to protect their land until Ferguson threatened to march over the mountain to destroy their countryside.

We can take inspiration from those few that stood up to British threats to take away what they had earned with their sweat and toil. Rather than wait to defend, they marched, fought, surrounded, and defeated those that threatened their way of life. So it is today, the Janus Decision is a call for our home and countryside and like those King's Mountain heroes of today's freedom,



we must band together in solidarity to fight, filled with determination against those that would come for us.

Janus is not about free speech, it is about reducing our power that we have gained through our collective voice, our good wages and benefits that provide for our families, our ability to live in dignity during and after decades of work, sometimes in hard weather, sometimes when we are off-duty, and at all times as the highly skilled professionals that we are.

No shill serving his own selfish interest or those of the well-financed, anti-worker organizations intent on undermining our hard work of over a century will cause our Union to cower. We are mindful that our union, like other unions, is a group of collective members with a comradery that spans this nation. We look out for each other and, when challenged, we fight back. Commuter rail and freight rail alike, if they threaten to come for us, we take the fight to them, united as Signalmen, and as Union members.

One must wonder if there were advisors and sages during the Revolutionary War time, and would they advise against challenging the powerful Britain. Would they advise them to pay homage to Britain's leaders like Cornwallis, accept the edicts, and beg the favor of the King. They might.

But like what faced those at King's Mountain, some things are worth fighting for. Speech is important, but our right to live in dignity as Americans, as Union Members that are part of the successful American economy, in critically important rail transportation jobs, is of higher importance than the right of a shill that portends that paying for representation interferes with his right to speak.

Emotions play a role, and there is a time for controlled anger. Signalmen will march upon and fight those that try to take away our rights. Just as we have done when the challenge seemed overwhelming in previous fights against powerful opponents. None of us can do it alone, but we can't do it if we don't accept the challenge and try. Just as King's Mountain was a fight by a small group against a powerful force, the collective action of a few skilled fighters can indeed be the Turn of the Tide of Success.

In Solidarity,



Floyd E. Mason  
*BRS President*

## Michael Efaw Appointed Grand Lodge Representative



Brother Efaw began his Railroad career more than 25 years ago with CSX Transportation on the Seaboard Coast Line, and subsequently transferred to the B&O in 1993. Brother Efaw served as Local Chairman and Financial Secretary in Local Lodge 31 before being elected General Chairman of

the B&O System General Committee in 2010. While serving as General Chairman, Brother Efaw reached a number of Agreements with CSXT, Assisted in organizing the Maintenance of Way employees on the Chicago, Fort Wayne and Eastern Railroad (CFER),

and reached a multi-year Agreement with the Signal and Communications Department with the CFER.

Brother Efaw is a strong Union activist and supported the West Virginia Teachers, Service Personnel, and all public employees during the Public School Employee Strike earlier this year speaking out in a local television interview, and speaking to the striking teachers on the West Virginia Capitol floor. Brother Efaw's wife and oldest daughter are both very active in their Local AFT Lodge and have seen benefits due to the teachers' success.

Brother Efaw is happily married to his wife of over 27 years, Valerie, and has four (4) children, Kathryn (Ricky) Musgrove, Michael, Samantha, and Constance and also has two (2) grandchildren, Andrew and Oliver Musgrove. ■



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## CANADIAN PACIFIC - SOO LINE RAILROAD COMPANY

# BRS Members Ratify

# Agreement



Signalmen employed by the Canadian Pacific - Soo Line Railroad Company (CP/SOO Line) have ratified a new six-year contract. The new Agreement settles all issues arising from the Railway

Labor Act (RLA), Section VI Notice dated January 26, 2015 that was served on the CP/SOO Line by the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen (BRS). The Agreement was signed on May 31, 2018, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with an effective date of July 1, 2018.

The Agreement provided for six general wage increases. The first general wage increase was 2% retroactive to January 1, 2016. The second general wage increase was 2% and retroactive to August 1, 2017. The third general wage increase was 2% and became effective August 1, 2018. The fourth general wage increase is 2% and becomes effective August 1, 2019. The fifth general wage increase is 2% and becomes effective August 1, 2020, and the sixth general wage increase is 2% and becomes effective August 1, 2021. The Agreement also calls for possible additional general wage increases of up to 1% for the years 2020 and 2021. The additional increases are only triggered based on the Company's year-over-year Revenue Ton Mileage (RTM) metric performance.

**In order to resolve local work rule issues, the CP/SOO Line agreed to amend several BRS Agreement Rules. Among those changes were:**

- An amendment was made to Agreement Rule No. 21 to address signal maintainer subject to call issues.
- Agreement Rule No. 24 (B) was amended to increase the meal allowance and adjust it up or down annually, based on the same percentage change of the previous year's CPI-U adjustment.

- Agreement Rule No. 31 was amended to allow all claims and grievances to be presented electronically by or on behalf of the employee involved.
- Agreement Rule No. 32 was adjusted to provide a faster claim process for discipline claims.
- Agreement Rule No. 37 was amended that in the event an employee is called outside of his regular assigned hours, such employee may be provided a Company vehicle or, if a vehicle is not made available, the employee shall be paid actual mileage (to a maximum of 50 miles each way) at 65% of the IRS annual mileage rate per mile from his residence to his headquarter point and back.

The BRS members on the CP/SOO Line were among the only employees working for a Class I Railroad that were not a party to National Contract Negotiations between the National Carriers' Conference Committee (NCCC) and the BRS. However, the CP/SOO Line Railroad did elect to stand-by for The Railroad Employees National Health and Welfare Plan. Subsequently, all The Railroad Employees National Health and Welfare Plan changes that were hammered out between the NCCC and the BRS were adopted by the parties to this Agreement.

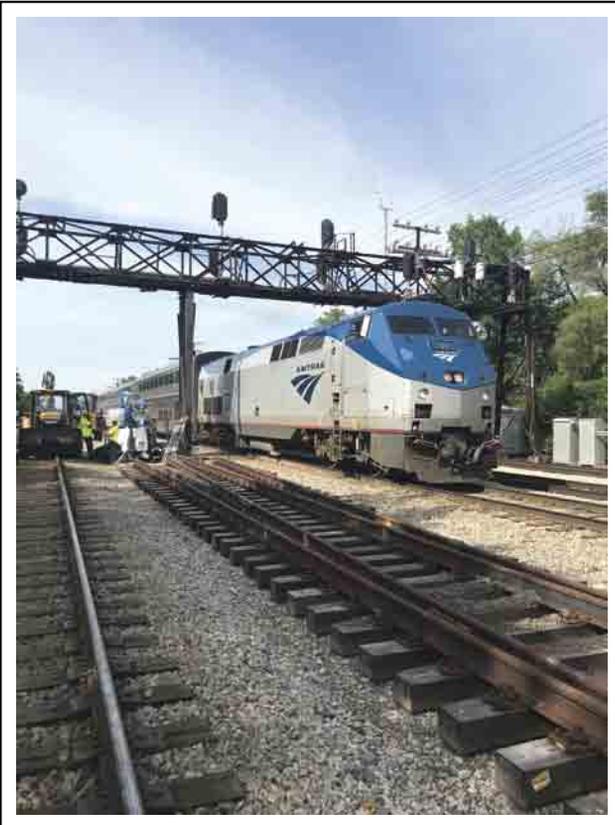
BRS Midwest Vice President J.L. "Joe" Mattingly and BRS CP/SOO Line General Committee Chairman Keith Huebner negotiated the final terms of the new contract. Brother Huebner also serves as Local Chairman for BRS Local Lodge No. 226. Following the Agreement's ratification, BRS Vice President Mattingly stated: *"This was a long and protracted negotiated agreement to say the least. As both the political and economic landscape change, so did the Carrier's position. The fact that the Railroad choose to stand-by for National Health & Welfare benefits only complicated the process. It was a hard fought battle until a couple of those factors stabilized."*

The terms of the Agreement run to January 1, 2022. However, either party may serve a new contract notice after September 1, 2021. ■

# BRS Members Unite

FOR HISTORIC SIGNAL PROJECT TACKLING

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY'S HOMEWOOD INTERLOCKING . . . . .



In what can only be described as a monumental project on the south side of Chicago, Illinois, Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen (BRS) members united to completely rebuild Canadian National Railway's (CN) historic Homewood Interlocking Plant. Signal construction crews and signal inspectors from the former Illinois Central (IC) were joined by former Grand Trunk & Western (GT&W) signal construction crews and former Wisconsin Central (WC) signal construction crews to knock out the complete rebuild of the Interlocking, as well as the territory north of the Interlocking, up to and including 16th Street.

The Signal Project was completed in record time thanks to an agreement that was reached between the CN and the BRS. The Agreement allowed several gangs from each property to assemble in the Chicago area to begin preparations and complete work on this massive project. The

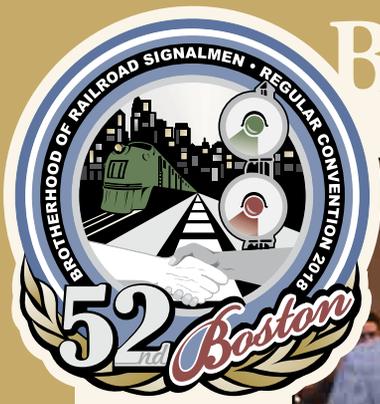
project was slated to begin June 22, 2018, with crews working continuously through July 3, 2018, if needed. The company agreed to utilize signal construction crews and IC signal inspectors, on a voluntary basis, for the work. Crews and inspectors worked an 11 to 11 schedule, meaning two shifts of around-the-clock workers. Crews were also allowed uniform meal periods, with meals being provided by the company during each work shift.

An unprecedented agreement was reached between the BRS IC, GT&W, and the WC General Committees to accommodate the project. This type of agreement is commonly referred to as an Incursion Agreement. It is called an Incursion Agreement because the work was being performed on the former Illinois Central property and allowed both GT&W and WC signal construction employees to assist with the work. The historic agreement was hammered out by BRS Illinois Central General Committee, chaired by Brian Lowe; BRS Northeast General Committee, chaired by Doug VanderJagt and BRS Wisconsin Central General Committee, chaired by Butch Hillila. They were assisted in negotiations by BRS Midwest Vice President J.L. "Joe" Mattingly.

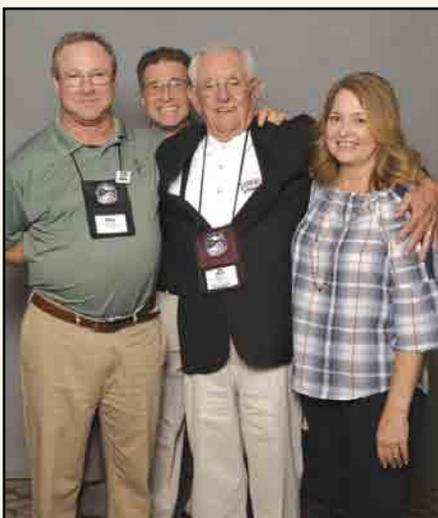
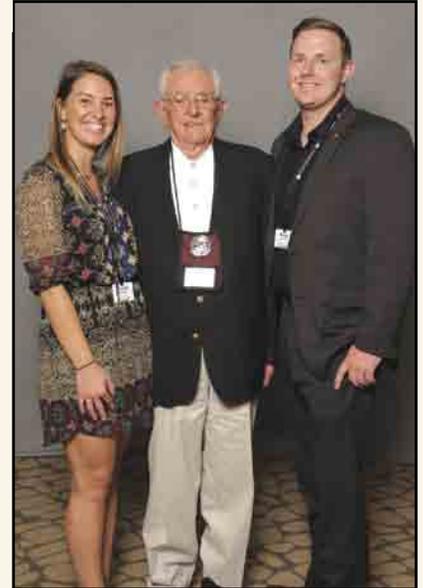
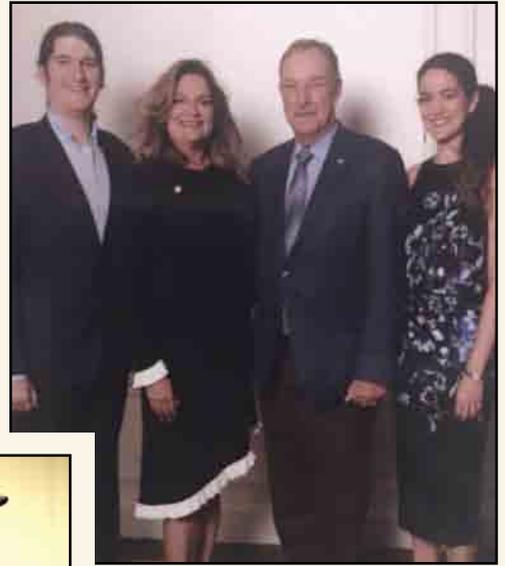
When asked about the project Vice President Mattingly said, *"This was a huge project for both the CN and our craft. In anticipation of the project, three (3) BRS General Committees worked tirelessly to coordinate the efforts for our signal construction crews, foremen, and inspectors. Once again, BRS members did a tremendous job to complete the work in a safe, efficient and timely manner. South Chicago has always been a high density train traffic area and some joint teamwork was simply needed. This complete interlocking rebuild was highly complex in nature and was no easy task. Every member is to be commended for their joint effort."*

The Homewood Interlocking and its associated approaches were upgraded from a conventional electro-mechanical relay-based system to a new microprocessor-based interlocking system. The new system will help accommodate the federally mandated positive train control signal system being installed in and around the greater Chicago area by Canadian National Railway. ■

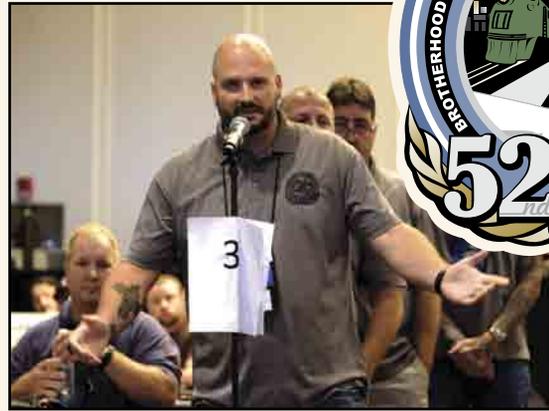
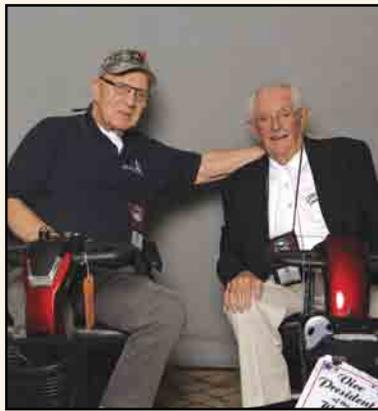
# BRS CONVENTION



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# BRS CONVENTION



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*The Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen  
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## *Accepting Resumés for Future Grand Lodge Representative(s)*

The role of the Grand Lodge Representative is primarily involved in the preparation of submissions for grievance resolution and other labor/employee related functions.

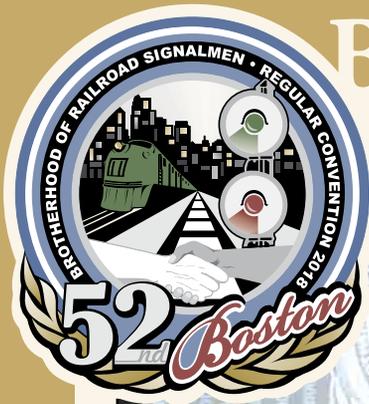
*The BRS President will assign duties and duties may vary.*

**Qualifications:** Only active BRS members are eligible for appointment to these positions. Union activism is a fundamental quality. Successful candidates will be detail oriented and have strong writing, communications, and organizational skills. Computer skills, including experience with Microsoft Office suite is a plus.

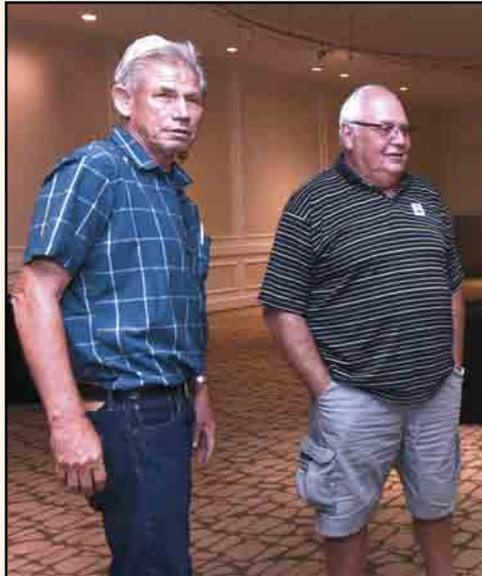
*If interested in submitting resumés for future openings, please send to:  
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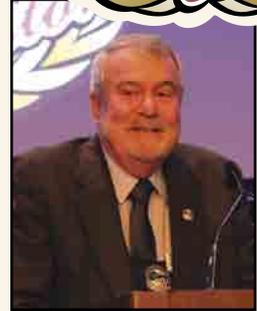
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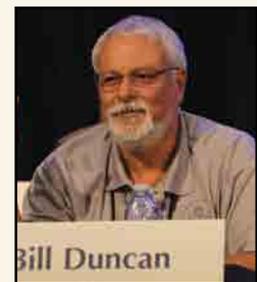
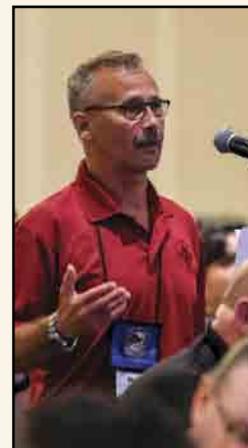
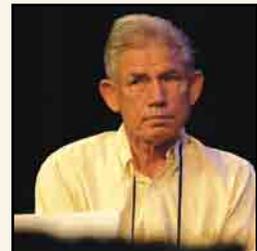
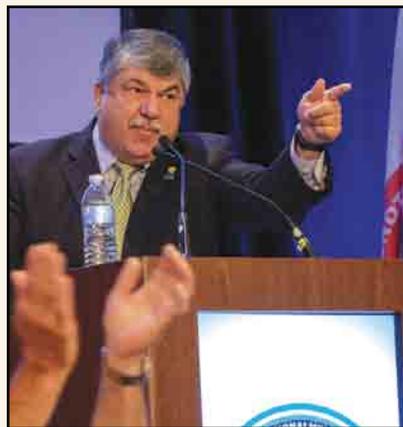


# BRS CONVENTION



*“Well, I have a message for every politician, Republican and Democrat, who wants to delay or derail our progress. Here is what I say to them: Get on board or get the hell out of the way because the Labor Movement is coming on through. I promise you that!”*

— AFL-CIO PRESIDENT RICHARD TRUMKA



BOSTON 2018

# BRS CONVENTION



## Solidarity Takes Center Stage AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION

The 52nd Regular Convention of the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, AFL-CIO, taking

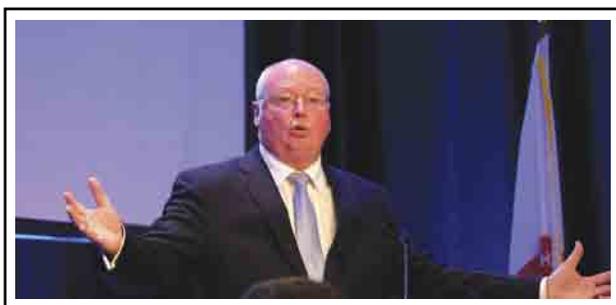
place at The Westin Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts, convened at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, August 6, 2018, BRS President W. Dan Pickett presiding.

The Colors were presented by the Boston Fire

Department Honor Guard, in conjunction with the singing of the National Anthem by Christine Tarrant. Chaplain Kurt Mullins, General Chairman of the Norfolk Southern General Committee, Local 228, gave the invocation.



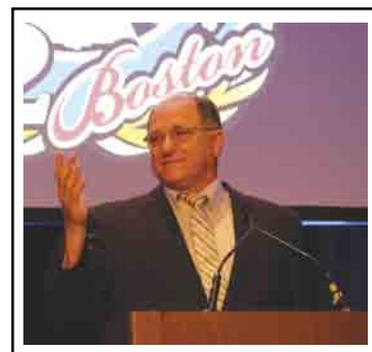
### Massachusetts AFL-CIO President Steven Tolman



President W. Dan Pickett introduced Massachusetts AFL-CIO President Steven Tolman, who was a fellow railroader from Amtrak. Brother Tolman discussed our pension under Railroad Retirement that provides dignity and prestige for all rail workers. Brother Tolman also addressed the attack on our Labor Movement, including the recent *Janus vs. AFSCME* Supreme Court decision. Brother Tolman warned that while the Janus decision is directed towards public sector employees, an attack on one is an attack on all.

### Congressman Mike Capuano

Congressman Mike Capuano representing the 7th Congressional District, member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and



Rail Labor Subcommittee, spoke about the persistent war on labor, taking away workers' rights piece-by-piece. Congressman Capuano brought up the recent decision to permit trains from different countries to enter the United States without abiding by U.S. regulations. Congressman Capuano highlighted that although it is only 10 miles now, without collective action and union members standing up it could be 50 miles next week, or 100 miles next month. Congressman Capuano thanked the BRS for their friendship and support, concluding that politicians need not be afraid to say the word "UNION".

### BRS President W. Dan Pickett

BRS Secretary-Treasurer Jerry Boles introduced BRS President W. Dan Pickett. President Pickett welcomed the Grand Executive Council, delegates, families and friends to the 52nd Regular Convention. President Pickett spoke to the fellowship and work that will take place over the course of the Convention, which will shape the future of our Organization. President Pickett spoke to our history, the hard-fought victories that have provided the benefits that we all enjoy today; as well as the present times and our duty to protect and further our progress. President Pickett drew attention to the "right-to-work for less" legislation that strips away workers' rights and is slowly destroying the middle class. President Pickett criticized the use of corrupt politicians by the corporate elite to attack our Railroad Retirement system and ability to protect our agreement through arbitration.

President Pickett spoke about the in-depth research and background check the BRS does on the political candidates that we support. President Pickett elaborated on how the corporate lobbying has paid dividends with

# BRS CONVENTION

## Solidarity Takes Center Stage

AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION



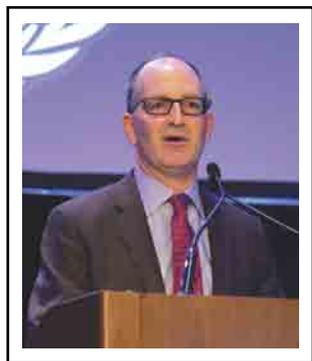
BOSTON 2018

a Supreme Court Judge, resulting in the recent Janus decision. President Pickett warned that although this decision should not affect us, it affects our fellow union brothers and sisters. President Pickett added that some commuter lines are likely going to claim that the Janus decision applies to their railroad. President Pickett proclaimed that the BRS will fight for our members for as long as it takes, even if we are standing alone. President Pickett followed by highlighting the BRS' success in organizing new members and providing more workers with a voice on the job. President Pickett commended the delegates for being the leaders and the backbone of the Organization, and he called upon them to keep up the fight.

President Pickett challenged the delegates to educate the new members on being a "Brother's Keeper" and the core principles of the union movement through solidarity. President Pickett encouraged all delegates not to forget the pride, common threads, and duties we share as Signalmen and union members.

### TTD President Larry Willis

President Pickett introduced Larry Willis, President of the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO (TTD). Brother Willis has previously served as Secretary-Treasurer, General Counsel, and Legislative



Representative for the TTD. Brother Willis highlighted the importance, and role that the TTD plays in ensuring that our nation's infrastructure is properly funded and fixed. Brother Willis pointed to the rhetoric about the need for infrastructure invest-

ment, but lack of commitment and action from the current administration. Brother Willis touched on the Gateway Project which will replace tunnels and infrastructure along the Northeast Corridor, providing good-paying union jobs and quality transportation for our country's busiest rail section. Brother Willis thanked the BRS for their dedicated work and leadership in the Rail Division of the TTD.

### RRB Member, Walt Barrows

Walt Barrows is the current Labor Member on the Railroad Retirement Board. Brother Barrows explained that the current railroad worker retires with over \$2 million in retirement bene-



fits. Brother Barrows applauded the disability benefits under Railroad Retirement that are far superior to any disability program in the nation. Brother Barrows spoke to the promising report from the chief actuary that shows trust fund cash flow consistency for the next 75 years. Brother Barrows

cautioned of the current issues with the administration's restrictions on the use of funds for support services and field office staffing that extends the time frames for processing of paperwork, including 11 months for disability cases. Brother Barrows encouraged the delegates to pay attention and fight changes in payroll tax and social security because they directly affect railroad retirement.

### BLET President Dennis Pierce

Dennis Pierce is the current President of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET). Brother Pierce spoke of his struggles working a non-union job before joining the union on the Burlington Northern Railroad. Brother Pierce spoke about his gratitude, respect, and appreciation of the solidarity shared with the BRS in coalitions over multiple rounds of national



bargaining. Brother Pierce reminded the delegates that craft lines do not take away the unity we share and struggles we face as railroad union workers. Brother Pierce stated that a union house divided will fall and we must stand together, not alone, in our fight against the profit-rich railroads.



# BRS CONVENTION

## The BRS Gets to Business

AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION

The 52nd Regular Convention of the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, AFL-CIO, taking place at The Westin Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts, reconvened at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 7, 2018, BRS President W. Dan Pickett presiding.

### BRS President W. Dan Pickett

President W. Dan Pickett opened with remarks about the relationship between the BRS and the United Mineworkers of America (UMWA). President Pickett reflected on standing side by side with the coal miners during the Pittston Coal Company strike of 1989 and the solidarity that led to a successful strike. President Pickett spoke to his friendship and brotherhood with AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka.

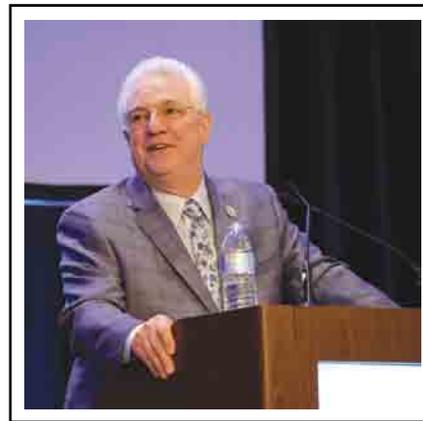
### AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka

President Pickett introduced AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka. Brother Trumka is a former President of the UMWA, former Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO, and current President of the AFL-CIO. Brother Trumka opened by expressing his appreciation for the solidarity and fellowship that Signalmen have shared with the mineworkers and AFL-CIO. Brother Trumka mentioned our most recent fight to save the pension system for the retired mineworkers. Brother Trumka also highlighted the vote on “Prop A” taking place in Missouri and the potential for a historic victory of work-

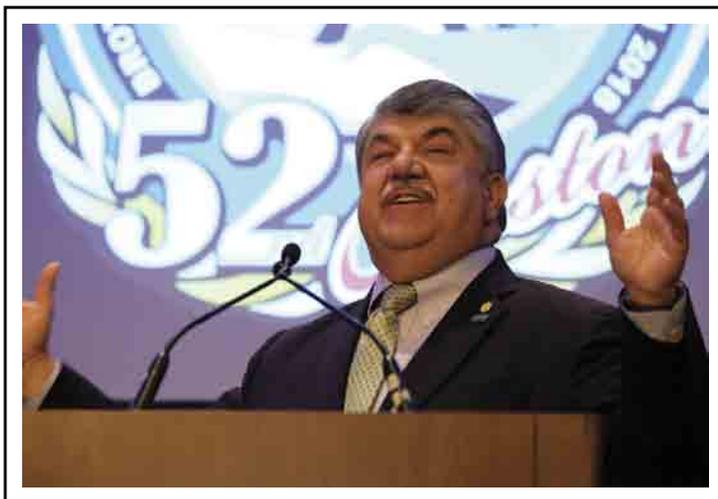
ing people overturning “Right-to-Work” laws. Brother Trumka continued by pointing out the enjoyment of rail travel and the lack of our country’s investment in rail compared to other countries. Brother Trumka proclaimed that keeping America safe and sound is not a part-time job and the same holds true for keeping our unions strong. Brother Trumka concluded by stating that the sun is rising for working people, and we will achieve a brighter future by working together rather than alone.

### TCU President and Chairman of the CRLO Bob Scardelletti

President Pickett introduced speaker, TCU President and Chairman of the CRLO, Bob Scardelletti. Brother Scardelletti is a life-long railworker starting his career as a Yard Clerk in Cleveland in 1967 and has been President



of the TCU since 1991, serving many roles in the labor movement. Brother Scardelletti praised the BRS for our relentless work and contribution in getting the Railroad Retirement Improvement



Act of 2001 passed. Brother Scardelletti pointed out that organized labor is under siege because of our successful work and fight against the corporate elite. Brother Scardelletti explained that it has taken active and relentless work by union members over centuries to gain the benefits we enjoy today. Brother Scardelletti spoke to the positive talks heard on the campaign trail about trade and infrastructure but the lack of action from the current administration. Brother Scardelletti encouraged the delegates to remain guardians of a safe and decent livelihood for our brothers and sisters.

# BRS CONVENTION

## The BRS Gets to Business

AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION



### Committee Reports

Secretary-Treasurer Boles gave an updated report from the Credentials Committee as follows: 250 delegates registered; 14 registered delegates-at-large; 11 registered Elective delegates-at-large, for a total of 275.

Delegate-at-Large Hugh Campbell, Local 18, Chair of the Rules Committee, reported that the Committee recommended adoption of the statutory Rules and Order of Business as outlined in the BRS Constitution. Motion passed.

The following committees had no business to report as of yet: Committee on Appeals, Committee on Resolutions, and Officers' Reports Committee.

The Committee on Laws chaired by Grand Lodge Trustee Mike Owens put forth the following recommendations:

Reject Resolution C, a proposal to require a regional Vice President reside within the "jurisdictional" limits to which they are assigned. Discussion was held on the floor regarding the cost benefits and increased effectiveness of having the Vice Presidents headquartered together. Discussion was raised about the requirement of moving, whether to Headquarters or the assigned field office. The Committee's recommendation to reject was adopted.

Adopt, as amended, Resolution A, a proposal to increase the per capita tax refunds provided to the Local Lodges based on thresholds of the General Fund and total funds under Article I, Section 141, Paragraph 3. The Committee's recommendation to reject was adopted.

Amend Article I, Section 131, Paragraph 2, to allow amendments to the Constitution and Ritual, Report and Recommendations from the Committee on Laws, as well as local meeting notices under Article II, Section 60, to be made available electronically. The Committee's recommendation was adopted, with a further amendment to Article II, Section 60.

Amend Article I, Section 18, to shorten the title of Vice President Commuter, Passenger, Transit/Political Director to Vice President Commuter/Passenger. The Committee's recommendation was adopted.

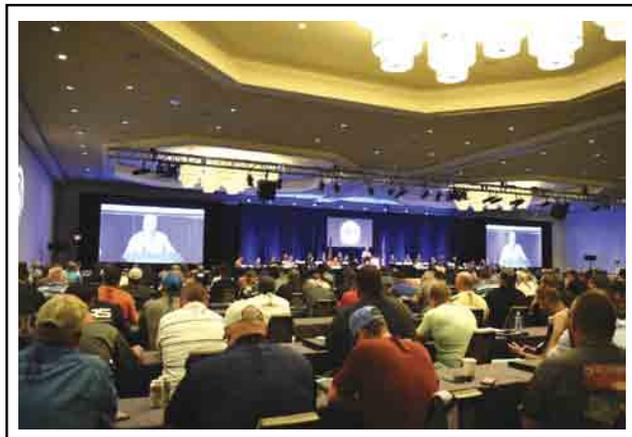
Amend Article III, Section 1, removing for each seniority district from the Paragraph 1. The Committee's recommendation was adopted.

Amend Article I, Section 127, to publish and distribute, at least semiannually, "*The Signalman's Journal*". The Committee's recommendation to adopt the report was rejected.

***Letters had been received by BRS headquarters from the following indicating their intent to run for office:***

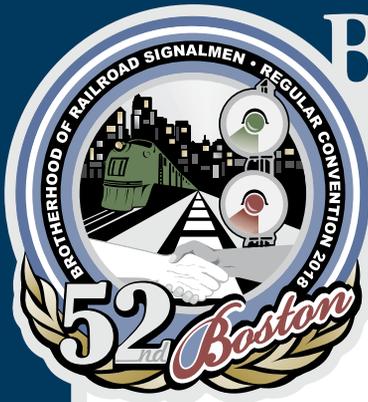
- President W. Dan Pickett
- Secretary-Treasurer Jerry C. Boles
- Vice President Headquarters Kelly A. Haley
- Vice President East Floyd E. Mason
- Vice President Midwest Joseph L. Mattingly
- Vice President Commuter/Passenger James M. Finnegan
- Vice President West Michael S. Baldwin
- Vice President NRAB John D. Bragg
- Grand Lodge Trustee Michael Owens
- Grand Lodge Trustee R. Gus Demott
- Grand Lodge Trustee John O. McArthur

Following Convention announcements, the Tuesday session of the Convention recessed for the day at 12:28 p.m.



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# BRS CONVENTION



## Election Day . . . . . AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION

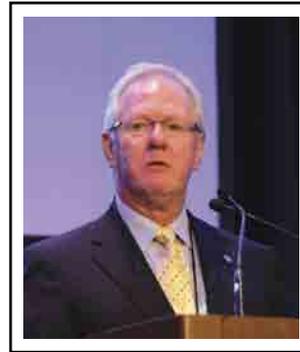
The 52nd Regular Convention of the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, AFL-CIO, taking place at the Westin Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts, reconvened at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 8, 2018, BRS President, W. Dan Pickett presiding.

### BRS President W. Dan Pickett

President W. Dan Pickett opened by announcing the victory for working people in Missouri as they voted NO on “Prop A”, and rejected “Right to Work”. President Pickett introduced Brother Newton Jones, President of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers (IBB).

### IBB International President Newton Jones

Brother Jones began his service as a full-time unionist in 1981 working as an organizer and is the current International President of the IBB. Brother Jones thanked the BRS for our long-lasting friendship and solidarity at all levels of the organizations, local to national. Brother Jones gave a brief history of the IBB, which began 138 years ago building steam locomotives and steam-powered ships. Brother Jones highlighted



that the Boilermakers and Signalmen have played a key role in America’s story, building the foundation of a bustling economy. Brother Jones spoke to the dangers on the job and the vigilance that Signalmen must maintain to remain safe of the job 24 hours a day. Brother Jones com-

mended the working people of Missouri for their victory in defeating “Prop A” and encouraged the delegates to remain active in our fight for the working class.

### Committee Reports

Secretary-Treasurer Boles gave an updated report from the Credentials Committee as follows: 250 delegates registered, 249 present; 14 registered delegates-at-large, 14 present; 11 registered elective delegates-at-large, 11 present; for a total of 275 registered, 274 present.

The following committees had no business to report as of yet: Committee on Appeals, Committee on Resolutions, and Officers’ Reports Committee.



# ELECTIONS

*The first order of business was the election of the President. Secretary-Treasurer Boles assumed the Chair for the purpose of conducting the nominations for President.*

### W. Dan Pickett

Elective Delegate-at-Large, Northeast Committee General Chairman Doug VanderJagt placed the name of W. Dan Pickett, BRS President, into nomination. He cited his 50-plus-year career with the railroad joining the BRS in 1968 within Local 77 of the Norfolk and Western General Committee. He had held the position of

Local Financial-Recording Secretary, Local Chairman, Vice President Southeast from 1985 to 1992, when he was first elected President of the BRS and continued to serve as BRS President for 26 years. He pointed to Brother Pickett’s leadership and guidance of the BRS and noted his military service in the Vietnam War. Brother Pickett received a host of seconds to his nomination.



# BRS CONVENTION

## Election Day .....

### AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION



BOSTON 2018

#### Floyd Mason

Elective Delegate-at-Large, Senior Vice General Chairman of the Union Pacific General Committee, Harry Doucet placed the name of Floyd E. Mason into nomination. He cited his 40-plus-year railroad career starting in 1974 within Local 52 of the United General Committee. He had held the position of Vice President Headquarters in 1991, elected Vice President Southeast in 1994, elected Vice President East in 2002, the position which he currently held. He pointed to Brother Mason's academic background, including being a graduate of the National Labor College and completing courses at Harvard. Brother Mason received a host of seconds to his nomination.



Voting instructions were given by Secretary-Treasurer Jerry Boles and the delegates lined up to cast their ballots while Convention stood at ease. Secretary-Treasurer Jerry Boles announced the results as follows: Out of 260 votes cast, Floyd Mason received 142 votes; W. Dan Pickett received 118 votes. Floyd Mason was declared the winner.

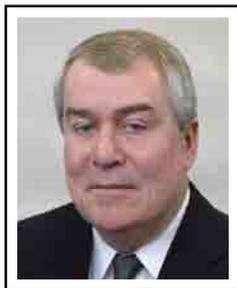
President-elect Mason thanked his wife, Sandy, for joining him in Boston. He also thanked the delegates for casting their votes and promised to work hard to represent them all.

President Pickett thanked his family for standing by him and always having his back. He thanked the delegates for supporting him in his 26 years as BRS President.

#### Jerry Boles

President Pickett opened nominations for the position of Secretary-Treasurer held by Jerry Boles.

Secretary-Treasurer was the next position up for election. Delegate Mike Sullivan, Local 56, placed the name of Jerry Boles, current Secretary-Treasurer, into nomination, citing the bond of brotherhood spanning the different walks of life and his work with assist-



ing with health benefits. Jerry received a host of seconds. There being no further nominations, Jerry Boles was elected by acclamation for another four-year term as Secretary-Treasurer. He thanked the hard-working staff at Headquarters that allow him to do the things that need to be done with our membership, which he looked forward to serving for another four years. Jerry thanked his family for their support.

#### Kelly Haley

President Pickett opened nominations for the position of Vice President of Headquarters held by Kelly Haley.

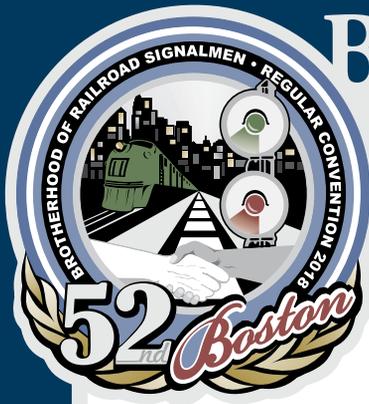
Nominations were opened for the position of Vice President of Headquarters held by Kelly Haley. Delegate Keith Huebner, Local 226, nominated Kelly Haley, which was seconded by Elective Delegate-at-Large Chris Natale, Local 56, and several others. Each speaking to the work he does behind the scenes and his participation in FAMES. There being no further nominations, Kelly Haley was elected by acclamation. Kelly appreciated the kind words and thanked his wife, Cynthia, for her years of support.



#### John Bragg

Nominations were opened for the position of Vice President NRAB. Elective Delegate-at-Large Kurt Mullins nominated John Bragg, which was seconded by Delegate-at-Large Jason Worcester, United General Committee, as well as many others. Each showing their appreciation for the work John has done with arbitration and local chairman training. There being no further nomination, John Bragg was elected by acclamation. John appreciated the trust the delegates have in him and the work the local chairmen are doing in the field.





# BRS CONVENTION

## Election Day .....

### AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION

#### Mike Baldwin

Nominations were opened for the position of Vice President West. Delegate Richard Martinez, Local 182, nominated Mike Baldwin, which was seconded by Delegate Charlie Magnett, Local 8, and several others. Each speaking to Mike's attendance to Local Lodge meetings and working with the committees on their issues. There being no further nomination, Mike Baldwin was elected by acclamation. Mike thanked the headquarters staff for their work and thanked his family for their support.



Delegate-at-Large Kurt Mullins, Local 77, removed his name from nomination. There being no further nomination, Tim Tarrant was elected by acclamation. Tim thanked Brother Kurt for the gesture in unity and thanked his family for their support.

#### Joe Mattingly

Nominations were opened for the position of Vice President Midwest. Delegate-at-Large Butch Hillilla, Local 239, nominated Joe Mattingly, which was seconded by Delegate Jared Crosswhite, Local 162, and several others. Each delegate cited their appreciation for Joe's guidance and hard work. There being no other nominations, Joe Mattingly was elected by acclamation. He thanked President Pickett for appointing him to Grand Lodge and being his mentor. He also thanked his devoted family for their support.



#### Jim Finnegan

Nominations were opened for the position of Vice President Passenger/Commuter. Elective Delegate-at-Large Chris Natale, Local 56, nominated Jim Finnegan, which was seconded by Elective Delegate-at-Large Rich Clark, Local 60, and several others. Each speaking to Jim's research and assistance on the issues on their respective properties. There being no further nomination, Jim Finnegan was elected by acclamation. Jim thanked the members for their support and thanked his wife, Chrissie, for her support.



#### Mike Owens

The final offices to be filled were for the three Grand Lodge Trustees, nominations were opened for the first office of Trustee Chairman, a position currently held by Mike Owens. Owens' name was placed in nomination by Local 183 Delegate Bill Kirkpatrick. He thanked Owens for the innovative ways in which he handled Metra, and asked the brothers to support Owens. The nomination was seconded by Local 183 Delegates Kevin Lavin, Alex Burgos, Matt Urban, and Edgar Vargas. There being no other nominations, Mike Owens was elected by acclamation. Owens thanked the delegates for honoring him with another term as Grand Lodge Trustee and for continuing to give the Board direction. He also recognized first-time delegates and encouraged them to introduce themselves to members from other committees.



#### Tim Tarrant

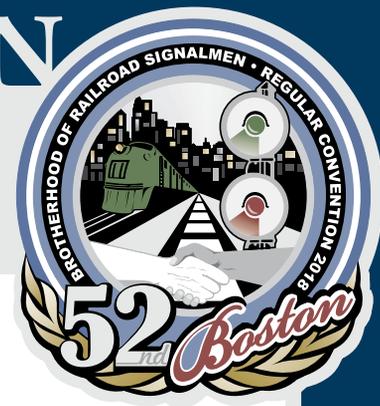
Nominations were opened for the position of Vice President East. Delegate Kevin Lavin, Local 183, nominated Tim Tarrant, which was seconded by Delegate Charlie Magnett, Local 8, and several others. Delegate Herb Denney, Local 228, nominated Kurt Mullins, which was seconded by Elective Delegate-at-Large Jason Harkleroad, Local 2, and several others. Elective



# BRS CONVENTION

## Election Day

AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION



### Gus Demott

Nominations were then opened for the second office of Trustee, a position currently held by Gus Demott. Southeast General Committee Elective Delegate-at-Large Bill Yates, Local 16, placed Demott's name in nomination, which was seconded by Long Island General Committee Elective Delegate-at-Large Chris Natale, Local 56, and Local 126 Delegate Rex Grant. There being no other nominations, Gus Demott was elected by acclamation. Demott thanked the delegates and pledged to keep the BRS in the forefront of all his work as Trustee.



McArthur, and Local 182 Delegate Richard Martinez seconded the nomination. There being no other nominations, John McArthur was elected by acclamation. McArthur thanked the delegates and his wife for their support.

The final order of business was the site selection process for the next BRS Convention in 2022. In accordance with the Constitution, nine cities were researched for consideration. They included Las Vegas, Orlando, Seattle, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and San Antonio. San Diego received 139, a majority, and was named as the next convention site.



### John McArthur

Nominations were then opened for the final office of Trustee, a position currently held by John McArthur. Local 8 Delegate Charlie Magnett nominated John

Following convention announcements, the Wednesday session of the Convention recessed for the day at 1:28 p.m.

## Delegates Continue Discussion & Debate

AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION

The 52nd Regular Convention of the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, AFL-CIO, taking place at the Westin Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts, reconvened at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 9, 2018, BRS President W. Dan Pickett presiding.

### FRA Administrator Ronald Batory

President Pickett introduced FRA Administrator Ronald Batory. He gave a summary of his railroad career, which involved the DT&I, GTW, CMW, Belt Railway of Chicago, and Conrail. Batory talked about how the railroads are the backbone of America and our economy. He spoke on how Signalmen play a key role in building and maintaining that backbone. Batory spoke on the

maintenance and upgrades that are in the near future, with some PTC equipment already being ten years old. Batory answered several questions posed regarding the status of RSAC and Signalmen Certification, C3RS, and the funding for Amtrak. Batory informed the delegates that the RSAC process would be re-chartered and is not dead. He stated that he felt the RSAC process is the right forum for Signalmen Certification to be addressed. Batory concluded with his belief that long distance Amtrak trains get a bad rap, touching on the on-time percentage being misleading and having to work with the equipment provided when funds are not provided.

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# BRS CONVENTION

## Delegates Continue Discussion & Debate AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION

### Brother Steve Smith, Local 56

President Pickett invited Brother Smith, a Tech Sergeant and Special Missions Aviator in the United States Air Force. President Pickett told the delegates of how Brother Smith flew the BRS flag on his helicopter over Iraq, which was given by Brother Smith to be on display at BRS Grand Lodge. Brother Smith expressed his appreciation to the delegates and all of his Brothers for their support and spoke to his four deployments performing combat rescue. He informed the delegates that at Convention he had raised \$15,000 for a family of one of his fallen brothers from the battlefield. Brother Smith spoke about VA benefits involved with apprenticeship and encouraged fellow military service members to reach out to him if they have questions concerning it.



### Committee Reports

Secretary-Treasurer Boles gave an updated report from the Credentials Committee as follows: 250 delegates registered, 250 delegates checked in; 14 registered delegates-at-large, 14 delegates-at-large checked in; 11 registered elective delegates-at-large, 11 elective delegates-at-large checked in for a total of 275.

The following committees had no business to report as of yet: Committee on Appeals, Committee on Resolutions, and Officers' Reports Committee.

The Committee on Laws chaired by Grand Lodge Trustee Mike Owens put forth the following reports and recommendations:

Amend Article I, Section 65, to allow for members to vote by electronic ballot on a national tentative agreement. The recommendation was amended to allow for the Local, under Article II, Section 15, and General Committee, under Article III, Section 8, to have an option to utilize electronic balloting to conduct elections. The Committee's recommendation was adopted.

Reject Resolution B, which sought to remove the language pertaining to having "dues in advance" through amendments of Article I, Sections 56, 137, 163, 164, 167, 173, 174, 180, and 185. Additionally, Resolution B sought to add a paragraph to Appendix B, Section V Expenditures, which would remove the requirement to collect dues from new hires during the process of applying for membership, as well as require the Local Lodge to refund one quarter's worth of dues under certain circumstances. Discussion and debate took place on the floor. The Committee on Laws report was rejected, the issue was tabled for further discussion on the following day.

Reject Resolution D, seeking to amend Article I, Sections 32, 33, 35, and 67. Resolution D sought to create a weighted voting on mid-term elections with the creation of a General Committee Executive Board. Discussion and debate took place on the floor. The Committee on Laws report was accepted, and Resolution D was rejected.

Following convention announcements, the Thursday session of the Convention recessed for the day at 2:24 p.m.



# BRS CONVENTION

## The Signalmen are Coming...

AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION



### THE SIGNALMEN ARE COMING, READY TO BATTLE CORPORATE GREED

The 52nd Regular Convention of the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, AFL-CIO, taking place at the Westin Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts, reconvened at 9:00 a.m., BRS President W. Dan Pickett presiding.

### BRS President W. Dan Pickett

President Pickett opened the final day of Convention with an announcement about Brother Ted Macken, a retired General Chairman. Pickett informed the delegates that Brother Macken had lost his house and everything in it to the wildfires in California. Pickett informed the delegation that George Jones, retired Grand Lodge Officer, was taking up donations from the Brotherhood to send and assist Brother Macken. President Pickett introduced the next speaker, Rich Edelman, who is a labor attorney that has worked closely with the BRS.

### Attorney Rich Edelman

Edelman thanked and commended President Pickett for his years spent advancing the interests of Signalmen and workers in general. Edelman mentioned President-Elect Mason's creative advocacy and ability to find a way. He looked forward to continue to provide counsel and representation for the BRS. Edelman talked at length on the recent Janus decision and the Supreme Court's decision to disregard precedent, bringing politics into their decision. Edelman warned that the big money foundations behind the Janus case will come for the private sector next. He gave a brief history of the "Right-to-Work" or "Right-to-Free Ride" legislation and the threats that these laws pose to labor and the overall working class. Edelman spoke that his work in defending workers in court can only go so far and encouraged the delegation to answer the call, standing up and standing together as union members to defend our rights.

### Committee Reports

Secretary-Treasurer Boles gave an updated report from the Credentials Committee as follows: 250 delegates registered, 237 delegates checked in; 14 registered delegates-at-large, 14 delegates-at-large checked in; 11 registered elec-

tive delegates-at-large, 9 elective delegates-at-large checked in; for a total of 259 delegates checked in. Brother Boles thanked the Credentials Committee for their hard work and a job well done.

The Committee on Laws reports and resolutions were again addressed. Delegate Charlie Magnett, Local 8, motioned to untable Resolution B, which was seconded by Elective Delegate-at-Large Kurt Mullins, Local 228, and the delegates voted to untable Resolution B. Delegate-at-Large Ron Behrens, Local 8, respectfully made a motion to withdraw Resolution B, which was seconded by Delegate-at-Large Jason Worcester, Local 232, and the delegates voted to withdraw Resolution B. The Committee on Laws was dismissed.

The Committee on Officers' Reports was chaired by Elective Delegate-at-Large Carlton Everett, Local 110. Brother Everett provided the Committee's report, which found three issues that included some misspellings on pages 27, 53, and 86. The Committee was dismissed.

Delegate-at-Large Jeremy Huckabee, Local 129, was Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions and provided the report of the Committee. Brother Huckabee thanked the members who served on the committee and reported that there were no resolutions received. The Committee was dismissed.

The Committee on Rules was dismissed. President Pickett thanked the members of the Committee for their work and making sure that our Convention was run in an orderly fashion.

Delegate Mike Sullivan, Local 56, gave the report for the Committee on Appeals and reported that there were no appeals received. The Committee was dismissed.



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# BRS CONVENTION

## Closing Remarks

AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION

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### Secretary-Treasurer, Jerry Boles

Brother Boles thanked his family for their support in allowing him to do the work he loves. He thanked the BRS staff at headquarters for their work for the Brotherhood and their work in making the 52nd Convention a success. Jerry thanked the Grand Executive Council and retirees for their leadership in times past, as well as the present. He closed by thanking President Pickett for his mentorship and his leadership.

### Vice President East/ President-Elect, Floyd Mason

Brother Mason expressed his appreciation for the work that the delegation had done throughout the week, with passionate debates and coming together in unity. He promised the delegates that he would work to the best of his ability to lead the Brotherhood.

### Vice President Midwest, Joe Mattingly

Brother Mattingly encouraged the delegates to return to their local and talk to them about what was accomplished at the Convention and the unity that our Brotherhood is based on. He spoke to the dangers of "Right-to-Work" legislation and the fight we have ahead to protect ourselves from the free loaders, or "leeches", that come with "Right-to-Work" and try to bleed out the union.

### Vice President Headquarters, Kelly Haley

Brother Haley thanked President Pickett for leading by example and promised to carry on that example. He encouraged the delegates, stating that we will win against the powers that seek to divide us and called the delegates to go back to their locals to educate and encourage our brothers and sisters in the field.

### Vice President NRAB, John Bragg

Brother Bragg spoke to the inspiration he has gained from the members fighting the good fight in the field. He expressed his pride and honor in serving the membership as a leader and his work in arbitration. He pledged to continue to fight for the Brotherhood in the coming years.

### Vice President West, Mike Baldwin

Brother Baldwin expressed appreciation for the opportunity to continue to serve the Brotherhood and the honor it is to be a leader for the organization. He thanked President Pickett for his friendship and mentorship.

### Vice President Commuter/Passenger, Jim Finnegan

Brother Finnegan spoke to the fight ahead against Janus and the unity that was demonstrated at the Convention. He reiterated the importance of the delegation to go back to the field unified and ready to fight the powers set against us. He thanked President Pickett for his leadership over the years and all that was accomplished. He spoke to supporting President-Elect Mason and do his part to ensure he is a successful leader.

### Director of Research/ Vice President East-Elect, Tim Tarrant

Brother Tarrant thanked President Pickett for the opportunity and his mentorship. He spoke to the passion, perseverance, sacrifice, courage, determination, understanding, and brotherhood that was demonstrated throughout the week at Convention. He thanked the staff at BRS headquarters for their work to keep the engine running at Grand Lodge. He expressed his excitement for his new position and pledged to fight hard for the betterment of the Brotherhood.

### National Legislative Director, Leonard Parker

Brother Parker encouraged the delegates to lock hands and stand together. He spoke to the strength and power we possess when we stand united, sharing the burden and becoming victorious in the end.

### Grand Lodge Representative, Brandon Elvey

Brother Elvey thanked the Grand Executive Council for their guidance and wisdom. He spoke to the solidarity and unity demonstrated by the delegation and encouraged them to take that unity back to their locals.

### Grand Lodge Representative, Mike Efaw

Brother Efaw thanked President Pickett for the opportunity and the Grand Executive Council for their guid-

# BRS CONVENTION



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ance. He thanked his fellow representatives and the staff for their encouragement and assistance. Additionally, he thanked his family for their support and encouraged the delegates, speaking to our strength and ability to overcome our obstacles.

## **Grand Lodge Trustee, Mike Owens**

Brother Owens spoke to the special experience of the 52nd Convention and witnessing delegates, both young and old, coming together to complete the important work at Convention. He encouraged the delegates to carry on the spirit of unity as they return home.

## **Grand Lodge Trustee, Gus Demott**

Brother Demott pointed out the common thread that connects us as Signalmen and the work that we all do to represent our membership. He showed his appreciation and pride in serving the membership and fighting to provide a better life for each Signalman.

## **Grand Lodge Trustee, John McArthur**

Brother McArthur showed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve the membership and thanked his General Committee for their support. He thanked the membership and the Grand Executive Council for their work and leadership. He encouraged the delegation to keep fighting, both the big battles and the small battles on each property.

## **Parliamentarian/General Counsel, Bill Phillips**

Phillips thanked President Pickett for the opportunity to serve and counsel the BRS. He touched on the battles that we face ahead and encouraged the membership to educate themselves on issues facing working people and make their vote matter.

## **Retiree, Witt Harwell**

Brother Harwell shared his enjoyment in retirement. He showed his appreciation for how Grand Lodge had treated him and his family throughout the week. Brother Harwell reminded the delegates of his experience working without a union and expressed his pride in paying

his union dues and the benefits the union provides. He referenced the struggles of times past that were overcome to get us to where we are today as a Brotherhood.

## **Retiree, Walt Lauer**

Brother Lauer explained that as union members we are the voice of working people and we cannot be silenced by those in power. He encouraged the delegates to remain strong and unite in representing our membership and the working class.

## **Retiree, Charlie McGraw**

Brother McGraw expressed the honor and appreciation he had for the opportunity to be at the Convention. He spoke to the enjoyment of meeting new delegates and reconnecting with old delegates.

## **Retiree, George Jones**

Brother Jones congratulated the delegates on conducting themselves in a professional manner and sticking together to tackle the issues at hand. He congratulated the newly elected and re-elected Grand Lodge Officers and thanked President Pickett for his years of leadership.

## **Retiree, Mark Ciurej**

Brother Ciurej warned against some of the powers and ideas that are present in our culture that threaten democracy and our country. He encouraged the delegates to continue to fight for all working people and fight against powers of injustice.

## **Retiree, Dennis Boston**

Brother Boston thanked President Pickett for his friendship and leadership. He promised to have the back of each brother, reiterating that an injustice to one brother is an injustice to us all.

## **Retiree, Bill Little**

Brother Little expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to attend the Convention and shared his enjoyment of meeting with the delegates.



# BRS CONVENTION

## Closing Remarks

### AT THE BRS 52<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR CONVENTION

#### Retiree, Bill Saar

Brother Saar congratulated the Grand Lodge Officers who were elected and reiterated the gratitude to President Pickett for his years of service to the BRS.

#### Retiree, Bill Wilson

Brother Wilson thanked the staff and Grand Executive Council for their work to support the entire membership. He thanked the Delegates for their work and congratulated President Pickett on all that he has accomplished as a leader of the BRS.

#### Retiree, Bill Duncan

Brother Duncan thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve in several leadership roles over his career. He reiterated the importance of taking the essence of unity and solidarity back to the Local. He expressed his appreciation for all the benefits and friendships that the BRS had provided for him, and so many others.

#### President, W. Dan Pickett

President Pickett reflected on his 53-year railroad career,

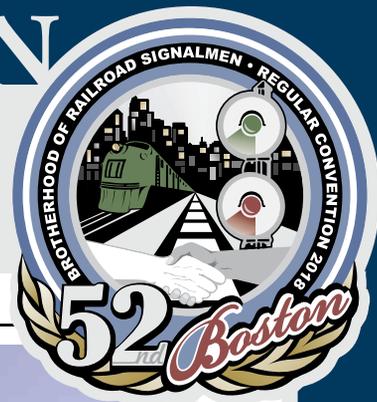
starting as a Lineman on Norfolk and Western and spending 44 years of service as a full-time union activist. He promised to do his part in making the transition smooth and keep the Brotherhood strong. President Pickett thanked the Grand Executive Council, Grand Lodge Trustees, and Grand Lodge Representatives for their work, friendship, and guidance. President Pickett highlighted the teamwork at Grand Lodge and how the Council's thoughts helped him make informed decisions on key issues. He thanked the staff at Grand Lodge for their hard work and spoke on their commitment to the BRS, as if they were a Signaller themselves. President Pickett thanked his wife, Jackie, and the rest of his family for their support and always being there for him during his service to the BRS. He expressed his gratitude to the delegates at Convention for allowing him to serve as President of the BRS for 26 years and expressed his pride and love for being a Signaller, a union leader, and a defender of the rights for his brothers and sisters. President Pickett called the delegation to stand strong and unified in the years to come.

Brother Kurt Mullins serving as Chaplain provided the closing prayer and Convention was closed at 12:11 p.m.



# BRS CONVENTION

*We're All One Union*  
**ONE TEAM, ONE FIGHT**



During the 52nd Regular BRS Convention held in Boston, Massachusetts, Brother Steve Smith of Local 56, presented President W. Dan Pickett with a BRS flag that he had flown during his last mission in Iraq.

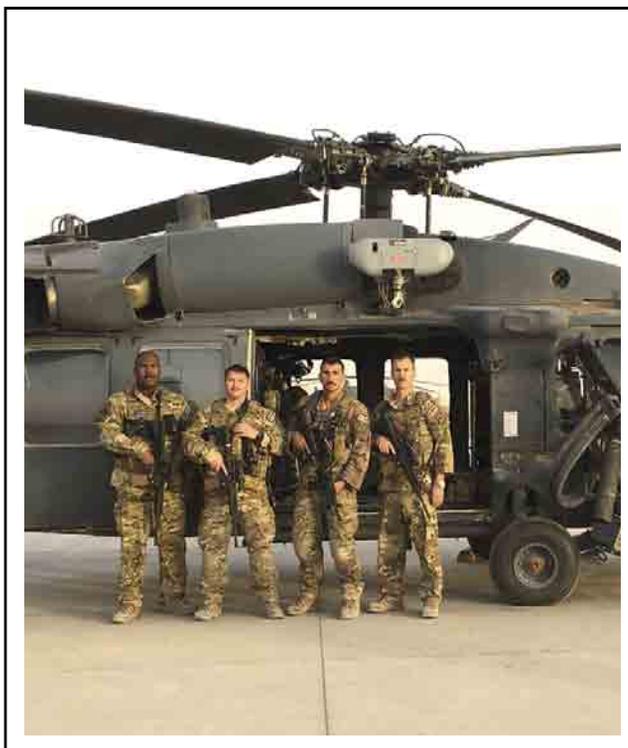
Sergeant Smith, a Tech Sergeant and Special Missions Aviator in the U.S. Air Force, has completed four deployments in combat rescue, rescuing the injured overseas and tasked with delivering them so they can receive the proper assistance. Unfortunately, during this last mission, seven of Sergeant Smith's Brothers-in-Arms lost their lives.

*"I came to Convention here Sunday night, Monday morning and raised 15 grand for one of the families that left behind a two and three-year old — It was my honor to do that for the family".*

Sergeant Smith was recently approved for an apprenticeship through the G.I. Bill and he mentioned that he appreciates everyone's support and he will continue to serve the military and Local 56.

He also thanked everyone for their solidarity and support — *"It's great to see everyone has your back. You can look to your left, to your right, or to the guys behind you, because we're all one union, one team, one fight".*

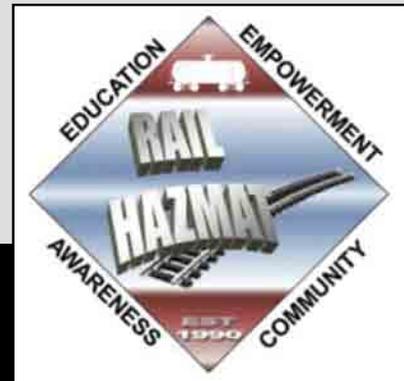
President Pickett stated that the BRS flag will be displayed at our Headquarters in Front Royal, Virginia.



BOSTON 2018

# RAIL WORKERS HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRAINING PROGRAM

*Peer trainers dedicated to providing quality education & awareness of hazardous materials, empowering rail workers & communities.*



## Rail Hazmat Chemical/Emergency Response Training Programs

The Rail Workers Hazardous Materials Training Program is funded by a federal grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to provide hazmat training to rail workers. This five-day hazmat training course will provide rail workers the essential knowledge, skills, and response actions in the case of an unintentional release. These tools will allow rail workers to protect themselves, their co-workers, and their communities.



This training addresses OSHA and DOT required training in addition to procedures, different levels of response, and worker protection in a hazardous materials emergency or release, weapons of mass destruction awareness, and the incident command system. The training also provides completion of the OSHA 10-Hour General Industry Outreach requirements. The programs are delivered using interactive classroom instruction, small group activities, hands-on drills and a simulated hazmat response in full safety gear.

The funding provides the following student expenses: travel, lodging and meals. In addition, an incentive of \$175.00 per day is available to all training participants of these programs, except those who are able to secure regular pay through their employer or are paid union officers. Training will be conducted at the Houston Fire Academy's Val Jahnke Training Facility, 8030 Braniff Street, Houston, TX 77061. ■

**To meet this training need, the Rail Program will conduct the following classes:**

*Sunday 5:30 p.m. orientation, Friday departure*

**November 11-16, 2018 — January 6-11, 2019**

**February 3-8, 2019 — March 17-22, 2019**

**Register now at the Rail Hazmat website:**

<http://railworkertrainingprogram.org> or [www.rwhmtp.org](http://www.rwhmtp.org)

**Contact Rail Workers Hazmat Training Program**

**(202) 624-6963**

(M-F, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM EST)



**DO BUY**

# BACK to SCHOOL

**LOOK FOR THESE UNION-MADE PRODUCTS FROM THE UNITED STEEL WORKERS  
AND THE PRINTING, PUBLISHING AND MEDIA WORKERS-CWA**

#### **ACCO BRAND PRODUCTS:**

- » Five Star school supplies and organizational gear
- » Mead school supplies
- » Tetra Pak milk cartons made by USW Local Union 171 in Vancouver, Washington

#### **ROARING SPRING PAPER PRODUCTS:**

- » Modern Jen journals and folders
- » Construction paper
- » Poster Board
- » Drawing pads
- » Sketch books
- » Compositions notebooks
- » Wire-bound notebooks
- » Binders and portfolios
- » Index cards
- » Envelopes
- » Folders

#### **BOISE PAPER PRODUCTS:**

- » Boise X-9
- » Business Choice
- » Flagship
- » Office Depot
- » FasCopy
- » Xerographics
- » USA Xerographics
- » Grand and Toy
- » W.B. Mason

#### **PACON BRAND PRODUCTS:**

- » Art1st drawing/sketch Pads
- » Array card stock & bond paper
- » Art Street construction paper
- » Bordette Decorative Border
- » Classroom Keepers storage
- » Colorwave tagboard
- » Corobuff 3D decorative backgrounds
- » Decorol Art Roll paper

- » Ecology recycled paper
- » Ella Bella photography backdrops
- » Fadeless Paper
- » Flameless Paper
- » GoWrite! dry erase pads
- » Kaleidoscope colored paper
- » Little Fingers construction paper
- » Neon fluorescent-colored paper products
- » Peacock colored paper products
- » Plast'r Craft modeling material
- » The Present-It easel pads
- » Rainbow Colored Kraft duo-finish paper
- » Riverside construction paper
- » Spectra ArtKraft duo-finish paper
- » Spectra Art Tissue tissue paper
- » Spectra Glitter
- » Trait-tex yarn
- » Tru-Ray construction paper

**DON'T FORGET TO THANK YOUR UNION TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS, SUPPORT STAFF AND BUS DRIVERS.**



## How Does the Judicial Branch Affect My Life?

Article III of the United States Constitution establishes the judicial branch of the government. With Article III, came the creation of the Supreme Court, however, it did not establish the number of justices that sit on the Supreme Court. The number has actually fluctuated from six to ten; Congress passed the Judiciary Act of 1869, which set the number of justices at nine, and it has not been amended since then. Justices are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. They serve a life term but can be impeached. Generally, the Supreme Court hears appellate cases but they also have original jurisdiction.

Parties who are not satisfied with the decision of a lower court must petition the U.S. Supreme Court to hear their case. The primary means to petition the court for review is to ask it to grant a *writ of certiorari*. This is a request that the Supreme Court order a lower court to send up the record of the case for review. The Court usually is not under any obligation to hear these cases, and it usually only does so if the case could have national significance, might harmonize conflicting decisions in the federal Circuit courts, and/or could have precedential value. The Court receives about 7,000–10,000 requests for review each year, of those it usually accepts 70 to 100. Four out of the nine justices must agree for a *writ of certiorari* to be granted.

It is here where you can begin to see the power the Supreme Court possesses. It has the ability to shape public policy merely by choosing which cases to hear and which ones to let go; justices have the ability to shape the national conversation on many topics. The biggest source of federal power possessed by the Supreme Court is in interpreting laws. In 1803, the Supreme Court's decision in *Marbury v. Madison* established the concept of judicial review. After ruling that Congress' Judiciary

Act of 1789 conflicted with the Constitution, Chief Justice John Marshall struck down the relevant portion of the Judiciary Act in the U.S. Supreme Court's first ever declaration that American federal courts have the power to refuse to give any effect to congressional legislation that is inconsistent with the Supreme Court's interpretation of the U.S. Constitution. Many laws

have a general ambiguity that leaves the door open for the Supreme Court to set a precedent not even contemplated by lawmakers when drafting the legislation. When a vacancy on the Court is created by a retire-

ment or death, the President appointing the justice to fill the vacancy has a great opportunity to influence public policy. One justice can swing the Court's decision in the other direction.

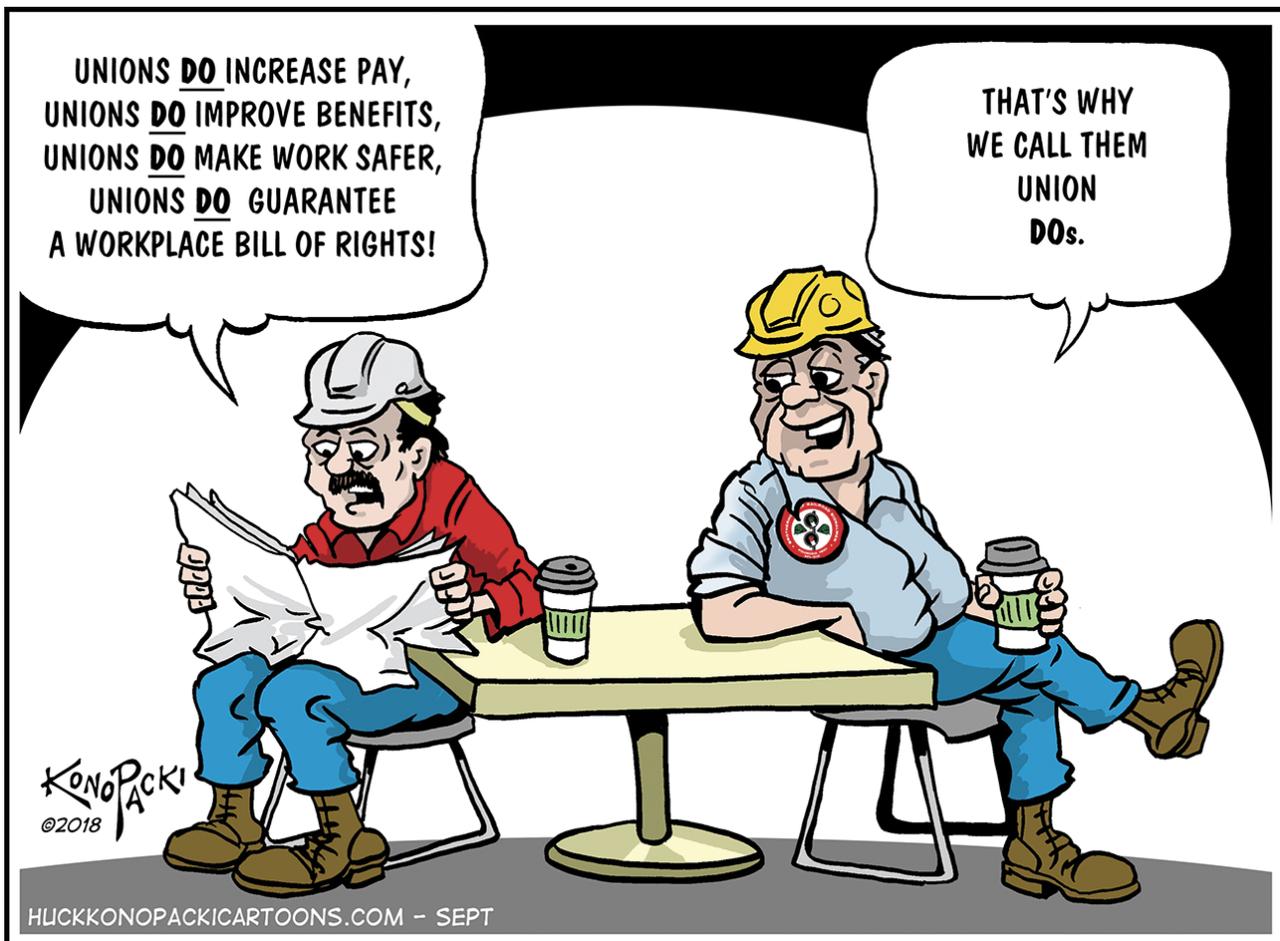
Most relevant to our current political climate, the Supreme Court's ruling in *Janus v. AFSCME* dealt a blow to public sector workers in the name of the First Amendment right of freedom of speech. The Court asserted that public sector union bargaining may affect public policy (such as budgets). Therefore, the Court ruled, an Illinois law that required state employees to pay dues (or a fair share) "compelled" employees to support union policies they might disagree with. This, the Court said, violated the First Amendment. This ruling applies to non-members in that they will no longer be required to pay the "fair share" or "free rider" fee, and it also compels unions to still represent non-members not paying any dues or "fair share" fee in matters of representation and arbitration. These employees also still enjoy the wages and benefits of the collective bargaining agreement negotiated by the union they do not wish to support.

Make no mistake, corporations are not gifting you higher wages out of the goodness of their hearts. Union members enjoy higher wages and stronger benefit pack-

***"We must not become complacent  
in using our voices to choose  
who will represent us."***

ages than non-union members because they negotiated them through their union. Unions are stronger because of a collective voice of craft employees who know their value and demand fair compensation. The ruling in *Janus v. AFSCME* damages the collective voice of teachers, police officers, fire fighters, municipal workers, etc. because non-member employees drag the resources of the union without contributing to the effort. One could argue that public sector employees are some of the most important employees in our communities. This Supreme Court ruling gives the government more

power and weakens the unions' voices in determining the quality of life for these valuable professions in the name of free speech. While this decision is limited to public sector employees, an attack on one of us is an attack on all of us and we must remain vigilant in protecting what we have fought for. We must not become complacent in using our voices to choose who will represent us. It is important to know when choosing a representative in Congress, especially the Senators who confirm presidential appointees, how the candidates stand on these topics. ■





# VOTER REGISTRATION

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### Am I registered to vote?

- Many states let you check your registration status online.
- Most states will send you a voter registration card within a few weeks if you've successfully registered to vote or a notification if there is a problem with your application.
- Check with your state or territory election office for procedures for your location.

### Where do I register?

- You can begin your voter registration online at *Vote.USA.gov*. Depending on your state's rules, the site can help you register online, download the Voter Registration Form, or find guidance for states and territories with different registration procedures.
- You can call your state or territory election office to have a mail-in voter registration form sent to you.
- You may be able to register to vote in person at public facilities, such as state or local voter registration and/or election offices, the Department of Motor Vehicles, armed services recruitment centers, and state or county public assistance offices. Check with your state or territory election office before heading to any of these locations.

### How can I find out what state I'm registered in? I have moved several times.

- You must register to vote in the state or territory where you legally reside. You cannot be registered to vote in more than one place at a time.
- If you don't know whether you're registered under your current legal address, check with your state or territory election office. Many states let you check your registration status online.
- When you register to vote in a new location, you'll be asked for the address where you were last registered to vote. Your new election office will send a cancellation form to your previous election office. Your voter

registration record should always reflect your current residence.

### How do I update my name or address for my voter registration?

- If your state has online voter registration, you can usually do this online.
- In most cases, you can use the National Mail Voter Registration Form to report a change of name or address. A few states and territories require you to use their state/territory form.
- Some states let you report a change of name or address by phone.
- Check with your state or territory election office for procedures in your area.

### What party am I registered with?

- You may be able to find this information on your voter registration card or in an online voter registration look-up.
- You can contact your state or territory election office for help finding this information.
- It's possible that you're not registered with any political party, either because your state doesn't accept party affiliations or because you didn't indicate a party preference when you registered to vote. You can register to vote and participate in general elections and nonpartisan primary elections without ever choosing a party affiliation.
- In some states, you must register with a party if you want to take part in that party's primary election, caucus, or convention.

### How to Research Candidates

When evaluating candidates for public office, it's important to decide what strengths you're looking for in a candidate, to research their positions on the issues, to learn about their leadership abilities, and to recognize any distortions in the information and opinions they express. ■

# 2018 ENDORSEMENTS

## Key Description

A	Auditor	G	Governor	S3	Senate Cycle 3 (2020)
AG	Attorney General	LC	Labor Commissioner	S4	Senate Special Election
AL	At-Large	LD	Land Commissioner	SS	Secretary of State
CA	Commissioner of Agriculture	LG	Lieutenant Governor	SE	State School Superintendent
CI	Commissioner of Insurance	S1	Senate Cycle 1 (2022)	T	Treasurer
CM	Comptroller	S2	Senate Cycle 2 (2018)	TC	Tax Commissioner
CN	Controller				

## Alabama

G - Walt Maddox (D)  
 LG - Will Boyd (D)  
 AG - Joseph Siegelman (D)  
 SS - John Merrill (R)  
 A - Miranda Joseph (D)  
 01 - Robert Kennedy, Jr. (D)  
 02 - Tabitha Isner (D)  
 03 - Mallory Hagan (D)  
 04 - Lee Auman (D)  
 05 - Peter Joffrion (D)  
 06 - Danner Kline (D)  
 07 - Terri Sewell (D)

## Alaska

G - Bill Walker (I)  
 LG - Byron Mallot (D)

## Arizona

G - David Garcia (D)  
 AG - January Contreras (D)  
 SS - Katie Hobbs (D)  
 SP - Kathy Hoffman (D)  
 S2 - Kyrsten Sinema (D)  
 02 - Ann Kirkpatrick (D)  
 03 - Raúl Grijalva (D)  
 07 - Ruben Gallego (D)  
 08 - Hiral Tipirneni (D)  
 09 - Greg Stanton (D)

## Arkansas

G - Jared Henderson (D)  
 LG - Anthony Bland (D)  
 AG - Mike Lee (R)  
 SS - Susan Inman (D)  
 01 - Chintan Desai (D)  
 02 - Clarke Tucker (D)  
 03 - Joshua Mahony (D)  
 04 - Hayden Shamel (D)

## California

LG - Ed Hernandez (D)  
 AG - Xavier Becerra (D)  
 SS - Alex Padilla (D)  
 CN - Betty Yee (D)

## California

T - Fiona Ma (D)  
 SP - Tony Thurmond (D)  
 CI - Ricardo Lara (D)  
 S2 - Kevin De León (D)  
 01 - Audrey Denney (D)  
 02 - Jared Huffman (D)  
 03 - John Garamendi (D)  
 04 - Jessica Morse (D)  
 05 - Mike Thompson (D)  
 06 - Doris Matsui (D)  
 08 - Paul Cook (R)  
 09 - Jerry McNerney (D)  
 10 - Josh Harder (D)  
 11 - Mark DeSaulnier (D)  
 12 - Nancy Pelosi (D)  
 13 - Barbara Lee (D)  
 14 - Jackie Speier (D)  
 15 - Eric Swalwell (D)  
 17 - Ro Khanna (D)  
 18 - Anna Eshoo (D)  
 19 - Zoe Lofgren (D)  
 20 - Jimmy Panetta (D)  
 21 - T.J. Cox (D)  
 22 - Andrew Janz (D)  
 23 - Tatiana Matta (D)  
 24 - Salud Carbajal (D)  
 25 - Katie Hill (D)  
 26 - Julia Brownley (D)  
 27 - Judy Chu (D)  
 28 - Adam Schiff (D)  
 29 - Tony Cardenas (D)  
 30 - Brad Sherman (D)  
 31 - Pete Aguilar (D)  
 32 - Grace Napolitano (D)  
 33 - Ted Lieu (D)  
 34 - Jimmy Gomez (D)  
 35 - Norma Torres (D)  
 36 - Raul Ruiz (D)  
 37 - Karen Bass (D)  
 38 - Linda Sanchez (D)  
 39 - Gil Cisneros (D)  
 40 - Lucille Roybal-Allard (D)  
 41 - Mark Takano (D)

## California

42 - Julia Peacock (D)  
 43 - Maxine Waters (D)  
 44 - Nanette Barragan (D)  
 45 - Katie Porter (D)  
 46 - Lou Correa (D)  
 47 - Alan Lowenthal (D)  
 48 - Harley Rouda (D)  
 50 - Ammar Campa-Najjar (D)  
 51 - Juan Vargas (D)

## Colorado

G - Jared Polis (D)  
 AG - Phil Weiser (D)  
 SS - Jena Griswold (D)  
 T - Dave Young (D)  
 01 - Diana DeGette (D)  
 02 - Joe Neguse (D)  
 03 - Diane Mitsch Bush (D)  
 04 - Karen McCormick (D)  
 05 - Stephany Rose Spaulding (D)  
 06 - Jason Crow (D)  
 07 - Ed Perlmutter (D)

## Connecticut

G - Ned Lamont (D)  
 AG - William Tong (D)  
 SS - Denise Merrill (D)  
 CM - Kevin Lembo (D)  
 T - Shawn Wooden (D)  
 LD - Susan Bysiewicz (D)  
 S2 - Chris Murphy (D)  
 01 - John Larson (D)  
 02 - Joe Courtney (D)  
 03 - Rosa DeLauro (D)  
 04 - Jim Hines (D)  
 05 - Jahana Hayes (D)

## Delaware

AG - Tim Mullaney (D)  
 A - Kathy McGuiness (D)  
 S2 - Tom Carper (D)  
 01 - Lisa Blunt Rochester (D)

## District of Columbia

00 - Eleanor Holmes Norton (D)

## Florida

G - Andrew Gillum (D)  
 AG - Sean Shaw (D)  
 T - Jeremy Ring (D)  
 CA - Nikki Fried (D)  
 S2 - Bill Nelson (D)  
 03 - Yvonne Hayes Hinson (D)  
 04 - Ges Selmont (D)  
 05 - Al Lawson (D)  
 06 - Nancy Soderberg (D)  
 07 - Stephanie Murphy (D)  
 08 - Sanjay Patel (D)  
 09 - Darren Soto (D)  
 10 - Val Demings (D)  
 13 - Charlie Crist (D)  
 14 - Kathy Castor (D)  
 15 - Kristen Carlson (D)  
 16 - David Shapiro (D)  
 18 - Lauren Baer (D)  
 19 - David Holden (D)  
 20 - Alcee Hastings (D)  
 21 - Lois Frankel (D)  
 22 - Ted Deutch (D)  
 23 - Debbie Wasserman Shultz (D)  
 24 - Frederica Wilson (D)  
 25 - Mario Diaz-Balart (R)  
 26 - Debbie Mucarsel-Powell (D)  
 27 - Donna Shalala (D)

## Georgia

G - Stacey Abrams (D)  
 LG - Sarah Riggs Amico (D)  
 AG - Charlie Bailey (D)  
 SS - John Barrow (D)  
 LC - Richard Keatley (D)  
 CI - Janice Laws (D)  
 CA - Fred Swann (D)  
 SE - Otha Thornton (D)

# 2018 ENDORSEMENTS

## Georgia

01 - Lisa Ring (D)  
03 - Chuck Enderlin (D)  
06 - Lucy McBath (D)  
07 - Carolyn Bourdeaux (D)  
09 - Josh McCall (D)  
11 - Flynn Broady, Jr. (D)  
12 - Francys Johnson (D)

## Hawaii

G - Colleen Hanabusa (D)  
S2 - Mazie Hirono (D)  
02 - Tulsi Gabbard (D)

## Idaho

LG - Kristin Collum (D)  
AG - Lawrence Wasden (R)  
SS - Jill Humble (D)  
SP - Cindy Wilson (D)  
01 - Christina McNeil (D)  
02 - Aaron Swisher (D)

## Illinois

G - J.B. Pritzker (D)  
LG - Juliana Stratton (D)  
AG - Kwame Raoul (D)  
SS - Jesse White (D)  
CM- Susan Mendoza (D)  
T - Mike Frerichs (D)  
01 - Bobby Rush (D)  
02 - Robin Kelly (D)  
03 - Dan Lipinski (D)  
04 - Jesus "Chuy" Garcia (D)  
05 - Mike Quigley (D)  
06 - Sean Casten (D)  
07 - Danny K. Davis (D)  
08 - Raja Krishnamoorthi (D)  
09 - Jan Schakowsky (D)  
10 - Brad Schneider (D)  
11 - Bill Foster (D)  
12 - Brendan Kelly (D)  
13 - Betsy Dirksen Londrigan (D)  
14 - Lauren Underwood (D)  
15 - Kevin Gaither (D)  
16 - Sara Dady (D)  
17 - Cheri Bustos (D)

## Indiana

SS - Jim Harper (D)  
T - John Aguilera (D)  
A - Joselyn Whitticker (D)  
S2 - Joe Donnelly (D)

## Indiana

01 - Peter Visclosky (D)  
02 - Mel Hall (D)  
03 - Courtney Tritch (D)  
04 - Tobi Beck (D)  
05 - Dee Thornton (D)  
06 - Jeannine Lee Lake (D)  
07 - André Carson (D)  
08 - William Tanoos (D)  
09 - Liz Watson (D)

## Iowa

G - Fred Hubbell (D)  
AG - Tom Miller (D)  
SS - Diedre DeJear (D)  
T - Mike Fitzgerald (D)  
A - Rob Sand (D)  
CA - Tim Gannon (D)  
01 - Abby Finkenauer (D)  
02 - David Loebsack (D)  
03 - Cindy Axne (D)  
04 - J.D. Scholten (D)

## Kansas

G - Laura Kelly (D)  
LG - Lynn Rogers (D)  
AG - Sarah Swain (D)  
SS - Brian McClendon (D)  
T - Marci Francisco (D)  
CI - Vicki Schmidt (D)  
01 - Alan LaPolice (D)  
02 - Paul Davis (D)  
03 - Sharice Davids (D)  
04 - James Thompson (D)

## Kentucky

01 - Paul Walker (D)  
02 - Hank Linderman (D)  
03 - John Yarmuth (D)  
04 - Seth Hall (D)  
05 - Ken Stepp (D)  
06 - Amy McGrath (D)

## Maine

G - Janet Mills (D)  
S2 - Angus King (I)  
01 - Chellie Pingree (D)  
02 - Jared Golden (D)

## Maryland

G - Ben Jealous (D)  
AG - Brian Frosh (D)

## Maryland

S2 - Ben Cardin (D)  
01 - Jesse Colvin (D)  
02 - C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger (D)  
03 - John Sarbanes (D)  
04 - Anthony Brown (D)  
05 - Steny Hoyer (D)  
06 - Roger Manno (D)  
07 - Elijah Cummings (D)  
08 - Jamie Raskin (D)

## Massachusetts

G - Jay Gonzalez (D)  
LG - Quentin Palfrey (D)  
AG - Maura Healey (D)  
SS - Bill Gavin (D)  
T - Deb Goldberg (D)  
A - Suzanne Bump (D)  
S2 - Elizabeth Warren (D)  
01 - Richard Neal (D)  
02 - Jim McGovern (D)  
03 - Lori Trahan (D)  
04 - Joe Kennedy, III (D)  
05 - Katherine Clark (D)  
06 - Seth Moulton (D)  
08 - Stephen Lynch (D)  
09 - Bill Keating (D)

## Michigan

G - Gretchen Whitmer (D)  
LG - Garlin Gilchrist (D)  
AG - Dana Nessel (D)  
SS - Jocelyn Benson (D)  
S2 - Debbie Stabenow (D)  
01 - Matt Morgan (D)  
02 - Rob Davidson (D)  
03 - Cathy Albro (D)  
04 - Jerry Hilliard (D)  
05 - Dan Kildee (D)  
06 - Matt Longjohn (D)  
07 - Gretchen Driskell (D)  
08 - Elissa Slotkin (D)  
09 - Andy Levin (D)  
11 - Haley Stevens (D)  
12 - Debbie Dingell (D)  
13 - Rashida Tlaib (D)  
14 - Brenda Lawrence (D)

## Minnesota

G - Tim Walz (DFL)  
LG - Peggy Flanagan (DFL)

## Minnesota

AG - Keith Ellison (DFL)  
SS - Steve Simon (DFL)  
A - Julie Blaha (DFL)  
S2 - Amy Klobuchar (DFL)  
S4 - Tina Smith (DFL)  
01 - Dan Feehan (DFL)  
02 - Angela Craig (DFL)  
03 - Dean Phillips (DFL)  
04 - Betty McCollum (DFL)  
05 - Ilhan Omar (DFL)  
06 - Ian Todd (DFL)  
07 - Collin Peterson (DFL)  
08 - Joe Radinovich (DFL)

## Mississippi

S2 - David Baria (D)  
01 - Randy Wadkins (D)  
02 - Bennie Thompson (D)  
03 - Michael Ted Evans (D)  
04 - Jeramey Anderson (D)

## Missouri

A - Nicole Galloway (D)  
S2 - Claire McCaskill (D)  
01 - William Lacy Clay (D)  
02 - Cort VanOstran (D)  
03 - Katy Geppert (D)  
04 - Renee Hoagenson (D)  
05 - Emanuel Cleaver (D)  
06 - Sam Graves (R)  
07 - Jamie Schoolcraft (D)  
08 - Kathryn Ellis (D)

## Montana

S2 - Jon Tester (D)  
01 - Kathleen Williams (D)

## Nebraska

G - Bob Krist (D)  
SS - Spencer Danner (D)  
S2 - Jane Raybould (D)  
01 - Jessica McClure (D)  
02 - Kara Eastman (D)  
03 - Paul Theobald (D)

## Nevada

G - Steve Sisolak (D)  
LG - Kate Marshall (D)  
AG - Aaron Ford (D)  
SS - Nelson Araujo (D)  
CN - Catherine Byrne (D)  
T - Zach Conine (D)

# 2018 ENDORSEMENTS

## Nevada

S2 - Jacky Rosen (D)  
01 - Dina Titus (D)  
02 - Clint Koble (D)  
03 - Susie Lee (D)  
04 - Steven Horsford (D)

## New Hampshire

G - Molly Kelly (D)  
01 - Chris Pappas (D)  
02 - Annie Kuster (D)

## New Jersey

S2 - Bob Menendez (D)  
01 - Donald Norcross (D)  
02 - Jeff Van Drew (D)  
03 - Andy Kim (D)  
04 - Chris Smith (R)  
05 - Josh Gottheimer (D)  
06 - Frank Pallone (D)  
07 - Tom Malinowski (D)  
08 - Albio Sires (D)  
09 - Bill Pascrell (D)  
10 - Donald Payne, Jr. (D)  
11 - Rebecca "Mikie" Sherrill (D)  
12 - Bonnie Watson-Coleman (D)

## New Mexico

G - Michelle Lujan Grisham (D)  
LG - Howie Morales (D)  
AG - Hector Balderas (D)  
SS - Maggie Toulouse Oliver (D)  
T - Tim Eichenberg (D)  
A - Brian Colon (D)  
LD - Stephanie Garcia Richard (D)  
S2 - Martin Heinrich (D)  
01 - Deb Haaland (D)  
02 - Xochitl Torres-Small (D)  
03 - Ben Ray Luján (D)

## New York

G - Andrew Cuomo (D)  
LG - Kathy Hochul (D)  
AG - Letitia "Tish" James (D)  
CM- Tom DiNapoli (D)  
S2 - Kirsten Gillibrand (D)  
01 - Perry Gershon (D)

## New York

02 - Liuba Grechen Shirley (D)  
03 - Tom Suozzi (D)  
05 - Gregory Meeks (D)  
06 - Grace Meng (D)  
07 - Nydia Velazquez (D)  
08 - Hakeem Jeffries (D)  
09 - Yvette Clark (D)  
10 - Jerrold Nadler (D)  
11 - Dan Donovan (R)  
12 - Carolyn Maloney (D)  
13 - Adriano Espaillat (D)  
14 - Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D)  
15 - Jose Serrano (D)  
16 - Eliot Engel (D)  
17 - Nita Lowey (D)  
19 - Antonio Delgado (D)  
20 - Paul Tonko (D)  
21 - Tedra Cobb (D)  
22 - Anthony Brindisi (D)  
23 - Tracy Mitrano (D)  
25 - Joseph Morelle (D)  
26 - Brian Higgins (D)  
27 - Nate McMurray (D)

## North Carolina

01 - G.K. Butterfield (D)  
02 - Linda Coleman (D)  
04 - David Price (D)  
05 - D.D. Ads (D)  
07 - Kyle Horton (D)  
08 - Frank McNeill (D)  
09 - Dan McCready (D)  
10 - David Wilson Brown (D)  
11 - Phillip Price (D)  
12 - Alma Adams (D)  
13 - Kathy Manning (D)

## North Dakota

AG - Dave Thompson (D)  
SS - Josh Boschec (D)  
CA - Jim Dotzenrod (D)  
TC - Kylie Overse (D)  
S2 - Heidi Heitkamp (D)  
01 - Mac Schneider (D)

## Ohio

G - Richard Cordray (D)  
LG - Betty Sutton (D)  
AG - Stevel Dettelbach (D)

## Ohio

SS - Kathleen Clyde (D)  
T - Rob Richardson (D)  
A - Zack Space (D)  
S2 - Sherrod Brown (D)  
01 - Aftab Pureval (D)  
07 - Ken Harbaugh (D)  
09 - Marcy Kaptur (D)  
11 - Marcia Fudge (D)  
12 - Danny O'Connor (D)  
13 - Tim Ryan (D)

## Oklahoma

G - Drew Edmondson (D)  
LC - Leslie Osborn (R)  
05 - Kendra Horn (D)

## Oregon

G - Kate Brown (D)  
LC - Val Hoyle (D)  
01 - Suzanne Bonamici (D)  
03 - Earl Blumenauer (D)  
04 - Peter DeFazio (D)

## Pennsylvania

G - Tom Wolf (D)  
S2 - Bob Casey, Jr. (D)  
01 - Brian Fitzpatrick (D)  
02 - Breadan Boyle (D)  
03 - Dwight Evans (D)  
04 - Madeleine Dean (D)  
05 - Mary Gay Scanlon (D)  
06 - Christina Houlahan (D)  
07 - Susan Wild (D)  
08 - Matt Cartwright (D)  
09 - Denny Wolff (D)  
10 - George Scott (D)  
11 - Jess King (D)  
12 - Marc Friedenberg (D)  
13 - Brent Ottaway (D)  
14 - Bibiana Boerio (D)  
15 - Susan Boser (D)  
16 - Ron DiNicola (D)  
17 - Conor Lamb (D)  
18 - Michael Doyle (D)

## Rhode Island

S2 - Sheldon Whitehouse (D)  
01 - David Cicilline (D)  
02 - James Langevin (D)

## South Carolina

G - James Smith (D)

AG - Constance Anastapoulo (D)  
SS - Melvin Whittenburg (D)  
01 - Joe Cunningham (D)  
02 - Annabelle Robertson (D)  
03 - Mary Geren (D)  
04 - Lee Turner (D)  
05 - Archie Parnell (D)  
06 - Jim Clyburn (D)  
07 - Mal Hyman (D)

## Tennessee

G - Karl Dean (D)  
S2 - Phil Bredesen (D)  
01 - Marty Olsen (D)  
03 - Danielle Mitchell (D)  
04 - Mariah Phillips (D)  
05 - Jim Cooper (D)  
06 - Dawn Barlow (D)  
07 - Justin Kanew (D)  
09 - Steve Cohen (D)

## Texas

G - Lupe Valdez (D)  
LG - Mike Collier (D)  
AG - Justin Nelson (D)  
CM- Joi Chevalier (D)  
LC - Tex Morgan (D)  
LD - Miguel Suazo (D)  
CA - Kim Olson (D)  
RC - Roman McAllen (D)  
S2 - Beto O'Rourke (D)  
01 - Shirley McKellar (D)  
02 - Todd Litton (D)  
05 - Dan Wood (D)  
06 - Jana Lynne Sanchez (D)  
07 - Laura Moser (D)  
08 - Steven David (D)  
09 - Al Green (D)  
10 - Mike Siegel (D)  
12 - Vanessa Adia (D)  
13 - Greg Sagan (D)  
14 - Adrienne Bell (D)  
15 - Vicente Gonzalez (D)  
16 - Veronica Escobar (D)  
17 - Rick Kennedy (D)  
18 - Sheila Jackson Lee (D)  
19 - Miguel Levario (D)  
20 - Joaquin Castro (D)  
21 - Joseph Kopser (D)  
22 - Sri Kulkarni (D)

# 2018 ENDORSEMENTS

## Texas

23 - Gina Ortiz Jones (D)  
24 - Jan McDowell (D)  
25 - Julie Oliver (D)  
26 - Linsey Fagan (D)  
27 - Eric Holguin (D)  
29 - Sylvia Garcia (D)  
30 - Eddie Bernice Johnson (D)  
31 - Mary Jennings MJ Hegar (D)  
32 - Colin Allred (D)  
33 - Marc Veasey (D)  
34 - Filemon Vela (D)  
35 - Lloyd Doggett (D)  
36 - Dayna Steele (D)

## Utah

S2 - Jenny Wilson (D)  
02 - Shireen Ghorbani (D)

## Utah

03 - John Curtis (R)  
04 - Ben McAdams (D)

## Vermont

G - James Ehlers (D)  
LG - David Zuckerman (D)  
AG - T.J. Donovan (D)  
SS - Jim Condos (D)  
T - Beth Pearce (D)  
A - Doug Hoffer (D)  
S2 - Bernie Sanders (I)  
01 - Peter Welch (D)

## Virginia

S2 - Tim Kaine (D)  
01 - Vangie Williams (D)  
02 - Elaine Luria (D)  
03 - Bobby Scott (D)  
04 - Donald McEachin (D)

## Virginia

05 - Leslie Cockburn (D)  
06 - Jennifer Lewis (D)  
07 - Abigail Spanberger (D)  
08 - Don Beyer (D)  
09 - Anthony Flaccavento (D)  
10 - Jennifer Wexton (D)  
11 - Gerry Connolly (D)

## Washington

S2 - Maria Cantwell (D)  
01 - Suzan DelBene (D)  
02 - Rick Larsen (D)  
03 - Carolyn Long (D)  
04 - Christine Brown (D)  
05 - Lisa Brown (D)  
06 - Derek Kilmer (D)  
07 - Pramila Jayapal (D)  
08 - Kim Schrier (D)  
09 - Adam Smith (D)  
10 - Denny Heck (D)

## West Virginia

S2 - Joe Manchin (D)  
02 - Talley Sergent (D)  
03 - Richard Ojeda (D)

## Wisconsin

G - Tony Evers (D)  
LG - Mandela Barnes (D)  
AG - Josh Kaul (D)  
S2 - Tammy Baldwin (D)  
01 - Randy Bryce (D)  
02 - Mark Pocan (D)  
04 - Gwen Moore (D)  
05 - Tom Palzewicz (D)  
06 - Dan Kohl (D)  
07 - Margaret Engebretson (D)  
08 - Beau Liegeois (D)

## ELECTION NEWS Liuba Grechen Shirley

Ms. Shirley is running against Peter King who is the republican incumbent for the 2nd District of New York. She is a strong advocate for workers' rights and affordable, comprehensive healthcare for all, not just the 1%. Ms. Shirley's family has lived in Long Island for five generations, and she is passionate about serving her neighbors,



*"I'm running for Congress because I believe healthcare is a human right. I'm running for Congress because there are too many barriers for women to succeed in this country. I'm running for Congress because our kids deserve to feel safe from gun violence. I'm running for Congress because working people across this country are hurting, while corporations and special interests rake in cash."*

Liuba holds an MBA with specializations in Management, Economics, and Social Innovation from New York University's Stern School of Business, and a BA in Politics and Russian from NYU. ■

## DID YOU KNOW?

### Title 49: Transportation

#### §236.6 HAND-OPERATED SWITCH EQUIPPED WITH SWITCH CIRCUIT CONTROLLER

Hand-operated switch equipped with switch circuit controller connected to the point, or with facing-point lock and circuit controller, shall be so maintained that when point is open one-fourth inch or more on facing-point switch and three-eighths inch or more on trailing-point switch, track or control circuits will be opened or shunted or both, and if equipped with facing-point lock with circuit controller, switch cannot be locked. On such hand-operated switch, switch circuit controllers, facing-point locks, switch-and-lock movements, and their connections shall be securely fastened in place, and contacts maintained with an opening of not less than one-sixteenth inch when open. ■

## WAYS TO BOOST YOUR ENERGY

# Tips to Help Keep Your Health on Track!



Waking up already tired can be frustrating, especially because your day hasn't even begun yet. Many of us reach for a caffeinated beverage to help get us through the day. What is really needed, however, is a plan to manage your energy throughout the day to help keep you more energetic, more productive, and happier.

### Energy management

Energy management is using your energy throughout the day based on your personal factors, such as sleep requirements, stress levels, medical issues, lifestyle, and age. The decisions you make and how you function throughout your day will determine how much energy is being expended and how much is being conserved. If you don't manage it efficiently, you may find yourself tired and run-down well before your day has ended.

### Ways to manage your energy

You can't always predict how your day will go. Issues can arise and require you to use more energy than you have. You may, however, be able to maintain or even increase your energy level by following some energy management practices.

- Eat a balanced diet — Eating a balanced, low-fat diet of fruits, vegetables, lean proteins, and grains isn't just for losing weight. It will also help preserve your energy levels throughout the course of your day.
- Get enough sleep — Sleeping at least seven hours each night will not only help you start your day with maximum energy but may also help prevent health issues that can arise from sleep deprivation.
- Exercise regularly — Including exercise into your weekly activity not only helps your body work more efficiently but it can help relieve stress, make you stronger, and improve your overall endurance.
- Minimize exposure to negative media — Staying informed of local and world events is important. However, many times what you hear and read can be stressful. If you find that more of what you are hearing or reading is negative, focus on the good things happening to keep that negative energy from consuming you.

- Perform a special task each day — If you have anything special that brings you joy or makes you feel good because it's helping others, try and incorporate it into your daily life. Surprisingly, just taking the time to read a book or listen to a favorite song can lift your spirits and inspire you.
- Surround yourself with positive people — It's easy to understand why people who exude positivity are better to be around than those who complain and generate negativity. Surrounding yourself with kind people over those who are toxic will help energize you.
- Focus on positive thoughts — It's easy to judge others. Try making each day more positive by thinking good thoughts towards others as often as you are able. Negative behavior not only brings stress and tension to your life but saps your energy as well.

### Maintaining energy management

Pay attention to how your daily activities impact your energy level and mood. The following self-checks may help you better manage what is helping or hurting your efforts.

- Check your energy — Do a self-check at different times throughout the day to monitor your energy level. Whether you find your energy level is low, medium or high, include what you were doing at the time of the self-check to help identify what is driving your energy level.
- Surround yourself in positivity — As you identify the people, events or activities that sap your energy and enthusiasm, think about the changes you can make. Be careful that you don't add to your stress by trying to make too many changes at once. Sorting through the areas that need change will be less stressful and overwhelming if you are realistic with your approach.
- Planning and setting priorities — Planning and setting priorities may come easier if you do it when you feel most energized. If you have a particular time of the day when this happens, use that time to take stock of what tasks need to be done first so you don't become overwhelmed. ■

This is informational only, not a replacement for the medical advice of your physician.



## The Importance of a Current Connection for Railroad Retirement Benefits

*Under the Railroad Retirement Act, a “current connection with the railroad industry” is one of the eligibility requirements for occupational disability annuities and is one of the factors that determines whether the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) or the Social Security Administration has jurisdiction over the payment of monthly benefits to survivors of a railroad employee. It is also one of the eligibility requirements for supplemental annuities.*

*The following questions and answers describe the current connection requirement and the ways the requirement can be met.*

### **How is a current connection determined under the Railroad Retirement Act?**

To meet the current connection requirement, an employee must generally have been credited with railroad service in at least 12 months of the 30 months immediately preceding the month his or her railroad retirement annuity begins. If the employee died before retirement, railroad service in at least 12 months in the 30 months before the month of death will meet the current connection requirement for the purpose of paying survivor benefits.

However, if an employee does not qualify on this basis, but has 12 months of service in an earlier 30-month period, he or she may still meet the current connection requirement. This alternative generally applies if the employee did not have any regular employment outside the railroad industry after the end of the last 30-month period which included 12 months of railroad service, and before the month the annuity begins or the date of death.

Once a current connection is established at the time the railroad retirement annuity begins, an employee never loses it, no matter what kind of work is performed thereafter.

### **Can nonrailroad work before retirement break a former railroad employee’s current connection?**

Yes. Full or part-time work for a nonrailroad employer in the interval between the end of the last 30-month period including 12 months of railroad service and the month

an employee’s annuity begins, or the month of death if earlier, can break a current connection, even where the earnings are minimal. Self-employment in an unincorporated business will not break a current connection. However, if the business is incorporated the individual is considered to be an employee of the corporation, and such self-employment can break a current connection.

Federal employment with the Department of Transportation, National Transportation Safety Board, Surface Transportation Board, National Mediation Board, Railroad Retirement Board, or Transportation Security Administration will not break a current connection. State employment with the Alaska Railroad, as long as that railroad remains an entity of the State of Alaska, will not break a current connection. Also, railroad service in Canada for a Canadian railroad will neither break nor preserve a current connection.

### **Are there any exceptions to these normal procedures for determining a current connection?**

A current connection can also be maintained, for purposes of survivor and supplemental annuities, but not for an occupational disability annuity, if the employee completed 25 years of railroad service, was involuntarily terminated without fault from his or her last job in the railroad industry, and did not thereafter decline an offer of employment in the same class or craft in the railroad industry regardless of the distance to the new position.

If all of these requirements are met, an employee’s current connection may not be broken, even if the

employee works in regular nonrailroad employment after the 30-month period and before retirement or death. This exception to the normal current connection requirement became effective October 1, 1981, but only for employees still living on that date who left the rail industry on or after October 1, 1975, or who were on leave of absence, on furlough, or absent due to injury on October 1, 1975.

### **Would the acceptance of a buy-out have any effect on determining whether an employee could maintain a current connection under this exception provision?**

Generally, in cases where an employee has no option to remain in the service of his or her railroad employer, the termination of the employment is considered involuntary, regardless of whether the employee does or does not receive a buy-out.

However, if an employee has the choice of either accepting a position in the same class or craft in the railroad industry or termination with a buy-out, accepting the buy-out is a part of his or her voluntary termination, and the employee would not maintain a current connection under the exception provision.

### **An employee with 25 years of service is offered a buy-out with the option of either taking payment in a single lump sum or of receiving monthly payments until retirement age. Could the method of payment affect the employee's current connection under the exception provision?**

The employee must always relinquish job rights in order to accept the buy-out, regardless of whether it is paid in a lump sum or in monthly payments. Neither payment option would extend the 30-month period. The determining factor for the exception provision to apply when a buy-out is paid is not the payment option. It is whether or not the employee stopped working involuntarily.

An employee considering accepting a buy-out should also be aware that if he or she relinquishes job rights to accept the buy-out, the compensation cannot be used to credit additional service months beyond the month in which the employee severed his or her employment relation, regardless of whether payment is made in a lump sum or on a periodic basis.

### **What if the buy-out agreement allows the employee to retain job rights and receive monthly payments until retirement age?**

The RRB considers the buy-out to be a dismissal allowance. When a monthly dismissal allowance is paid, the employee retains job rights, at least until the end of the period covered by the dismissal allowance. If the period covered by the dismissal allowance continues up to the beginning date of the railroad retirement annuity, railroad service months would be credited to those months. These railroad service months would provide at least 12 railroad service months in the 30 months immediately before the annuity beginning date and maintain a regular current connection. They will also increase the number of railroad service months used in the calculation of the railroad retirement annuity.

### **Could the exception provision apply in cases where an employee has 25 years of railroad retirement coverage and a company reorganization results in the employee's job being placed under social security coverage?**

The exception provision has been considered applicable by the RRB in cases where a 25-year employee's last job in the railroad industry changed from railroad retirement coverage to social security coverage and the employee had, in effect, no choice available to remain in railroad retirement covered service. Such 25-year employees have been deemed to have a current connection for purposes of supplemental and survivor annuities.

### **Where can a person get more specific information on the current connection requirement?**

More information is available by visiting the RRB's website, [RRB.gov](http://RRB.gov), or by calling an RRB office toll-free at 1-877-772-5772. Persons can also find the address of the RRB office servicing their area by calling the toll-free number, or by clicking on the **Field Office Locator** tab at [RRB.gov](http://RRB.gov). Most RRB offices are open to the public on weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., except on Wednesdays when offices are open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. RRB offices are closed on Federal holidays.

# BRS DESIGNATED COUNSEL

ON-THE-JOB INJURY | FELA | RAIL LABOR | INFO | LAW  
RAILROAD SIGNALMEN | EMPLOYEE RIGHTS | CLAIM

## ALABAMA

**W.C. Tucker, Jr.**  
Maples, Tucker & Jacobs, LLC  
2001 Park Place North  
Suite 1325  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
Tel. (205) 322-2333  
[www.mtandj.com](http://www.mtandj.com)

## ARIZONA

**Lloyd L. Rabb, III**  
Rabb & Rabb, PLLC  
7442 N. LA Cholla Blvd.  
Tucson, AZ 85728  
Tel. (520) 888-6740  
(800) 354-3352  
[www.1stinjurylaw.com](http://www.1stinjurylaw.com)

## ARKANSAS

**Chris Christy**  
Law Office of H. Chris Christy  
201 W. Broadway Street  
Suite G12  
North Little Rock, AR 72114  
Tel. (501) 454-3949

## CALIFORNIA

**Jay A. Kaplan**  
Kaplan Law Corporation  
400 OceanGate  
Suite 1125  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
Tel. (562) 372-0506  
(800) 552-7526  
[www.kaplanlawcorp.com](http://www.kaplanlawcorp.com)

**Anthony S. Petru**  
Hildebrand, McLeod & Nelson  
Westlake Building  
350 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza  
4th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612  
Tel. (510) 451-6732  
(800) 689-7066  
[www.hmnlaw.com](http://www.hmnlaw.com)

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**Larry Mann**  
Alper & Mann, PC  
9205 Redwood Avenue  
Bethesda, MD 20817  
Tel. (202) 298-9191  
(800) 747-6266

## FLORIDA

**Howard A. Spier**  
Rossman Baumberger Rebozo & Spier, PA  
9155 S. Dadeland Boulevard  
Suite 1200  
Miami, FL 33156  
Tel. (305) 373-0708  
(800) 775-6511  
[www.rbrlaw.com](http://www.rbrlaw.com)

## ILLINOIS

**Daniel Petro**  
The Petro Law Firm  
One North LaSalle Street  
Suite 3150  
Chicago, IL 60602  
Tel. (312) 332-9596  
(800) 472-5729  
[www.petrofelalaw.com](http://www.petrofelalaw.com)

**Daniel J. Downes**  
Ridge & Downes  
101 N. Wacker Drive  
Suite 200  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Tel. (800) 572-1136  
(800) 624-2121  
[www.ridgedownes.com](http://www.ridgedownes.com)

## MARYLAND

**P. Matthew Darby**  
Berman, Sobin, Gross,  
Feldman & Darby LLP  
Heaver Plaza  
1301 York Road  
Suite 600  
Lutherville, MD 21093  
Tel. (410) 769-5400  
(800) 248-3352  
[www.bsgfillaw.com](http://www.bsgfillaw.com)

## MASSACHUSETTS

**Robert T. Naumes**  
Naumes Law Group, LLC  
2 Center Plaza  
Suite 620  
Boston, MA 02108  
Tel. (617) 227-8444  
(844) 826-8445  
[www.naumeslaw.com](http://www.naumeslaw.com)

## MICHIGAN

**Arvin J. Pearlman**  
Sommers Swartz, PC  
1 Towne Square  
Suite 1700  
Southfield, MI 48076  
Tel. (248) 356-5000  
(800) 272-5400  
[www.sommerspc.com](http://www.sommerspc.com)

## MINNESOTA

**Randal W. LeNeave**  
Hunegs, LeNeave  
& Kvas  
1000 Twelve Oaks  
Center Drive  
Suite 101  
Wayzata, MN 55391  
Tel. (612) 339-4511  
(800) 328-4340  
[www.hklklaw.com](http://www.hklklaw.com)

6035 Binney Street  
Omaha, NE 68104  
Tel. (402) 341-2020

## MINNESOTA

**Gregory T. Yaeger**  
Yaeger & Weiner, PLC  
2701 University Avenue SE  
Suite 202  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
Tel. (612) 345-9797  
[www.yw-law.com](http://www.yw-law.com)

## MISSOURI

**Gene C. Napier**  
Hunegs, LeNeave & Kvas  
1712 Main Street  
Suite 266  
Kansas City, MO 64108  
Tel. (913) 484-3884

**Drew C. Baebler**  
The Baebler Firm, LLC  
60 Crestwood Executive Ctr.  
St. Louis, MO 63126  
Tel. (314) 270-9900  
[www.raillaw.com](http://www.raillaw.com)

## NEBRASKA

*See Minnesota*

## NEW YORK

**Marc Wietzke**  
Flynn & Wietzke, PC  
1205 Franklin Avenue  
Garden City, NY 11530  
Tel. (516) 877-1234  
(866) 877-3352  
[www.felaattorney.com](http://www.felaattorney.com)

## OHIO

**Andrew J. Thompson, Esq.**  
Shapero | Roloff Co., LPA  
1350 Euclid Avenue  
Suite 1550  
Cleveland, OH 44115  
Tel. (216) 781-1700  
(800) 321-9199  
[www.shaperoroloff.com](http://www.shaperoroloff.com)

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Michael J. Olley**  
Coffey, Kaye, Myers & Olley  
Two Bala Plaza  
Suite 718  
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004  
Tel. (610) 668-9800  
(800) 334-2500  
[www.ckmo.com](http://www.ckmo.com)

## TEXAS

**Weldon Granger**  
Jones, Granger,  
Tramuto, & Halstead  
[www.jonesgranger.com](http://www.jonesgranger.com)

**Robert M. Tramuto**  
10000 Memorial Drive  
Suite 888  
Houston, TX 77210  
Tel. (713) 668-0230  
(800) 231-3359

## UTAH

**Brent O. Hatch**  
Hatch, James & Dodge, PC  
10 West Broadway  
Suite 400  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
Tel. (801) 363-6363  
[www.hjdlaw.com](http://www.hjdlaw.com)

## VIRGINIA

**Willard J. Moody, Sr.**  
The Moody Law Firm, Inc.  
500 Crawford Street  
Suite 200  
Portsmouth, VA 23704  
Tel. (757) 393-4093  
(800) 368-1033  
[www.moodyrllaw.com](http://www.moodyrllaw.com)

**C. Richard Cranwell**  
Cranwell, Moore & Emick, PLC  
111 W. Virginia Avenue  
Vinton, VA 24179  
Tel. (540) 904-1621  
(888) 635-6304  
[www.cranwellmoorelaw.com](http://www.cranwellmoorelaw.com)

## WASHINGTON

**James K. Vucinovich**  
Rossi Vucinovich PC  
1000 Second Avenue  
Suite 1780  
Seattle, WA 98104  
(866) 357-RAIL (7245)  
[www.railroad-injuries.com](http://www.railroad-injuries.com)

*When Signalmen suffer a work-related injury or illness, BRS members or their families are encouraged to determine their rights and benefits under the Federal Employers' Liability Act before agreeing to any settlement with the railroad employer. The Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen has designated the attorneys listed in this directory to serve as qualified counsel for BRS members in employee injury cases covered by FELA.*



*Attorneys are listed by state and are designated to serve BRS members living or working in the general region of their offices. Designation of FELA counsel is by authority of the BRS Executive Council only.*

*BRS members are encouraged to provide information regarding FELA cases, including criticism or commendations regarding the service of designated counsel, and information on injuries and settlements.*

*This information, which will be used in the continuing evaluation of this program, should be sent to: W. Dan Pickett, President, Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen 917 Shenandoah Shores Road, Front Royal, VA 22630-6418*

# BENEFITS DIRECTORY

INSURANCE | CLAIMS | GROUP POLICIES | INFO  
HEALTH | RAILROAD RETIREMENT | PLANS  
PHARMACY BENEFIT

## UnitedHealthcare

**National Plan** — GA-23000  
Managed Medical Care Programs (MMCP) &  
Comprehensive Health Care Benefit (CHCB)  
**1-800-842-9905**  
[www.myuhc.com](http://www.myuhc.com)

**Retiree Claims** — GA-46000  
UnitedHealthcare  
P.O. Box 30985  
Salt Lake City, UT 84130-0985  
**1-800-842-5252**

**Retiree Supplemental** — GA-23111  
UnitedHealthcare  
P.O. Box 30304  
Salt Lake City, UT 84130-0404  
**1-800-842-5252**

## Aetna Healthcare

Aetna  
3541 Winchester Road  
Allentown, PA 18195  
**1-800-842-4044**  
[www.aetna.com](http://www.aetna.com)

## Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield  
Railroad Dedicated Unit  
P.O. Box 890381  
Camp Hill, PA 17089-0381  
**1-866-267-3320**  
[www.bcbs.com](http://www.bcbs.com)

## Life Insurance

MetLife  
P.O. Box 6122  
Utica, NY 13504-6122  
**1-800-310-7770**  
[www.metlife.com](http://www.metlife.com)

## Vision Service Plan

EyeMed  
Member Support  
**1-855-212-6003**  
[www.eyemedvisioncare.com/railroad](http://www.eyemedvisioncare.com/railroad)

## Union Plus

Mortgage (Wells Fargo) • AT&T Discount  
Credit Card • Scholarships and much more  
[www.unionplus.org](http://www.unionplus.org)

## Mental Health and Substance Abuse Benefits

For treatment, claims or inquiries call:  
United Behavioral Health  
**1-866-850-6212**  
[www.liveandworkwell.com](http://www.liveandworkwell.com)  
Access code: Railroad

## Supplemental Sickness Benefits Under Group Policy No. R-5000

Aetna  
P.O. Box 189145  
Plantation, FL 33318-9145  
**1-800-205-7651** • Fax: 954-452-4124  
You may file online at: [www.wkabsystem.com](http://www.wkabsystem.com)  
Company identifier: RR

## Dental Benefits under Group Policy No. GP-12000

Aetna  
P.O. Box 14094  
Lexington, KY 40512-4094  
**1-877-277-3368**  
[www.aetna.com](http://www.aetna.com)

## Managed Pharmacy Benefit Express Scripts

Retail pharmacy network provides medication  
for acute, short-term care.  
Mail-order prescription service provides  
medication for chronic, long-term care.  
UnitedHealthcare Plans GA-23000 and  
GA-46000  
**1-800-842-0070**  
[www.express-scripts.com](http://www.express-scripts.com)

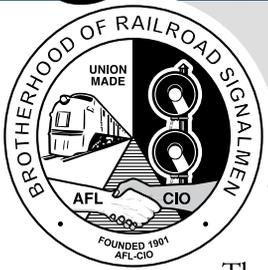
## Railroad Retirement Board

**1-877-772-5772** — Automated Help Line  
[www.rrb.gov](http://www.rrb.gov)

## Railroad Info — Your Track to Health

[www.yourtracktohealth.com](http://www.yourtracktohealth.com)  
(Note: Information on this site does not  
apply to Amtrak employees)

# Continuous Membership



The Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, in recognition of BRS members' contributions to the Signalman's craft and their dedication to the principle of trade unionism, has established a Continuous Service program to honor longtime BRS members. Continuous Service lapel pins are presented to members every five years, beginning with their 25th year of membership.

The following is a list of the active members who recently received Continuous Service pins in recognition of their years as BRS Members:

## 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

WD Pickett	77
HI Storie	152

## 45 YEARS OF SERVICE

GJ Bodyl	57
RL Lyons	99
TW Jones	130
RD Wise	138
T Stewart	155

## 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

DN Feaster	1
RP Bohan	8
AW Kalskett	8
CL Ziegler	8
AH Dembski	10
RL Cooper	16
E Hadden, Jr.	16
KL Murray	16
GS Powell	16
DO Rogers	16
R Timmons	16
AD Todd	16
DK Clayton	19
TJ O'Brien	20
JB Nickel	33
LR Sharpless	48
JE Boyce, Jr.	49
TE Coleman	62
DR Clary	71

## 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

TB Huber	72
SC Owens	72
GO Bryson	87
CH Minix	99
KN Pavlica	99
CG Reyna, Jr.	99
CG Everett	110
JR Everhart, Jr.	110
RC Lance	110
EA Gandara	121
KE Strickland	121
BR Nixon	126
C Guerra	130
R Storbeck	141
MD Espinosa	155
DT Chaparro	161
LE Riley	161
DL Cassidy	178
GD Nightingale	188
LE Broyles	198
MA Mattison	226

## 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

MC McGowan	19
GA Graham	24
FT Middlecamp, Jr.	65
JH Geteles	84
DJ Spoores	94
RL Swetnam	94
PT Liberty	102

## 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

RJ Mihok	102
WL Reaves	102
MD Eubank	129
MR Prowell	152
MB Jolly	206
JW Sanders	206

## 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

TJ Joyce	5
E McIntosh	5
JT Wheelock	5
TM Feeny	8
RL Duckett	18
EM Leeson	20
DJ Dunigan	33
DD Oliver	48
T Fonden	60
S Quigley	84
TR Fontaine	87
RS Zorn	87
JE Dunahee	94
GR Szymoniak	97
EM Nava	99
RJ Morris	120
LB Burns	126
SG Parker	126
DP Kulzer	147
TL Crisp	148
LW Johnson	154
JP Strang	154
GP Williams	156
ML Holloway	157
AS Weissinger	157
DL Burch	161

## 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

DL Noland	161
A Esparza	173
JD Randolph	178
KR Downs	183
JW Price	183
RH Ware, Jr.	185
MD Ogrin	188
JR Wurzauf	188
AR Tullos	206
DP Radick	228
SE Fisher	229
RL Gage	229

## 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

RS Saltsman	2
MA Burks	13
WN Fowler	14
RK Wilkes	16
CW Moyers	20
KJ Walker	20
ML Efaw	31
KS Harris	31
GH Jones	31
TL Ratzlaff	33
L Estell	49
LW Hildinger	52
ST Rogers	53
WJ Carter, Jr.	55
BK Crosier	55
MT Griffin	55
CE Howe	55
AD Carter	60
M Fadeski	60
CT Brasher	71

**25** YEARS OF SERVICE

BK Watson	71
HB Hughes	72
TJ Watring	72
K Sarris	84
JP Dombkowski	92
RD Coggins	110
TL Hall	110
ER Heller	110
JJ Leimann	121
JC Smith	137
JB Boyett	141
CD Clemens	141
TH Henderson	141
RT Pugh	141
KA Thornton	141
PA Buchholz	154
WJ Easley	156
TS Tompkins	157
LL Anderson	161
RB Sullivan	172
ML Dorland	173
JR Welsh	173
BK Rodgers	178
TW Worley	178
JB Blackburn	188
LM Migala	188
RE Whitney	188
DJ Lawler	194
AJ Przewoznik	194
CA Hensley	198
ST Marlow	208
MJ McGee	208
JC Moore	208
PL Burns	226
DM Snyder	237

**Annual Enrollment**  
**FIND A MEDICARE PLAN TODAY**



Do you want to make changes to your Medicare coverage? There are certain times when you can make these changes; some of these time periods are different depending on the type of Medicare plan.

For Medicare Advantage (also known as Medicare Part C) and Medicare prescription drug plans, there's an Annual Enrollment Period (AEP) when you can sign up for, change, or disenroll from the plan.

The AEP runs from October 15 to December 7 each year. If you didn't sign up for one of these plans when you first became eligible for Medicare (during your Initial Enrollment Period), the AEP is generally your chance to make these changes, unless you qualify for a Special Election Period (SEP).

**What changes can you make during the AEP?**

Here's a quick rundown of what you can do during the Annual Enrollment Period:

- Change to a Medicare Advantage plan from Original Medicare, Part A and Part B.
- Change from a Medicare Advantage plan to Original Medicare, Part A and Part B.
- Change from one Medicare Advantage plan to another (regardless of whether either

plan offers drug coverage).

- Enroll in a Part D prescription drug plan.
- Change from one Medicare prescription drug plan to another.
- Opt out of Medicare prescription drug coverage completely.

Changes you make during the AEP go into effect January 1 of the next year.

Union Plus has partnered with eHealth to offer union retirees the Union Plus Retiree Health Insurance Program. The resources offered by eHealth can help you navigate your Medicare Plan options and choose the right Medicare plan for you and your spouse, based on your budget and needs. eHealth can provide information about many different insurance companies and Medicare plans at no additional cost to you with no obligation to enroll.

If you need personalized help over the phone, you can call an eHealth licensed insurance agent at 888-680-4770 (TTY users 711) Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Eastern Time during AEP to help you compare Medicare plan options available in your area or you can visit [unionplusmedicare.com](http://unionplusmedicare.com).

# OBITUARIES

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**ALBERT L. BAKER**—retired member of **LOCAL 157**. Brother Baker retired in 1990 after 39 years of service with the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific and Cotton Belt Route Railroads. Brother Baker was a Signal Maintainer at Dalhoit, Texas, at the time of his retirement.

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**ROBERT J. BOLDA**—retired member of **LOCAL 3**. Brother Bolda retired in 1991 after 44 years of service with the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad. Brother Bolda was a Signal Inspector at Hammond, Indiana, at the time of his retirement. Brother Bolda served as Local President and Recording-Financial Secretary.

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**RUSSEL E. BRONSON**—retired member of **LOCAL 147**. Brother Bronson retired in 1987 after 36 years of service with the Delaware & Hudson Railway. Brother Bronson was a Signal Maintainer at St. Edward, New York, at the time of his retirement.

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**DAVID A. CHINN**—active member of **LOCAL 71**. Brother Chinn had 22 years of service with CSX Transportation. Brother Chinn was a Signal Maintainer at Owensboro, Kentucky, at the time of his passing.

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**CHARLES T. CISLO**—active member of **LOCAL 3**. Brother Cislo had 7 years of service with the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad. Brother Cislo was a Shift Maintainer at the Blue Island Substation at the time of his passing.

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**JON P. CLEVELAND**—retired member of **LOCAL 120**. Brother Cleveland retired in 2017 after 35 years of service with the Boston & Maine Railroad. Brother Cleveland was a Signalman at the time of his retirement. Brother Cleveland is a U.S. Navy Veteran who served from 1973 to 1976.

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**JAMES “JIMMY” C. COGGIN**—active member of **LOCAL 129**. Brother Coggin had 21 years of service with the BNSF Railway Company. Brother Coggin was a Foreman at Amory, Mississippi, at the time of his passing.

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**FRANK HALL**—retired member of **LOCAL 13**. Brother Hall retired in 1982 after 23 years of service with the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. Brother Hall was a Signal Maintainer at Lebanon Junction, Kentucky, at the time of his retirement.

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**HAL M. HAMMEL**—retired member of **LOCAL 101**. Brother Hammel retired in 1963 after 26 years of service with the Erie Lackawanna Railway. Brother Hammel was a Foreman at Rochester, New York, at the time of his retirement.

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**RUSH D. HARDIN**—retired member of **LOCAL 110**. Brother Hardin retired in 1984 after 39 years of service with the Southern Railroad. Brother Hardin was a Signal Maintainer at Spartanburg, South Carolina, at the time of his retirement. Brother Hardin served as Local Chairman.

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**VERNON C. HARRINGTON**—retired member of **LOCAL 28**. Brother Harrington retired in 1981 after 38 years of service with the New York Central Railroad and Conrail. Brother Harrington was a Signal Maintainer at Three Rivers, Michigan, at the time of his retirement.

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**MITCHELL L. HECK**—retired member of **LOCAL 31**. Brother Heck retired in 2013 after 39 years of service with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and CSX Transportation. Brother Heck was a Signal Maintainer at Martinsburg to Cherry Run, West Virginia, at the time of his retirement.

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**RUDOLPH J. HEINLE, JR.**—retired member of **LOCAL 6**. Brother Heinle retired in 1980 after 44 years of service with the Soo Line Railroad. Brother Heinle was a Signal Maintainer at Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, at the time of his retirement. Brother Heinle served as Chief Signalman and Trustee. Brother Heinle is a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran who served from 1942–1945.

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**RAYMOND C. HIVELY**—retired member of **LOCAL 2**. Brother Hively retired in 1984 after 28 years of service with the Pennsylvania and Penn Central Railroads and Conrail. Brother Hively was a Signal Foreman at Mansfield, Ohio, at the time of his retirement.

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**ELMER O. HORNER, JR.**—retired member of **LOCAL 216**. Brother Horner retired in 1986 after 34 years of service with the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway. Brother Horner was a Signal Maintainer at Walbridge, Ohio, at the time of his retirement.

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**FRANCIS E. HORVATH**—retired member of **LOCAL 153**. Brother Horvath retired in 2011 after 42 years of service with the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads. Brother Horvath was a Signal Maintainer at Paso Robles, California, at the time of his retirement.

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**ROBERT L. HOUCK, JR.**—retired member of **LOCAL 155**. Brother Houck retired in 2002 after 38 years of service with the Union Pacific Railroad. Brother Houck, was a Signal Maintainer at Seattle, Washington, at the time of his retirement.

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**ROBERT F. HOWARD, JR.**—retired member of **LOCAL 16**. Brother Howard retired in 1989 after 38 years of service with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad and CSX Transportation. Brother Howard was a Signal Maintainer at St. Petersburg, Florida, at the time of his retirement.

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**WILLIAM D. HUGGINS**—retired member of **LOCAL 137**. Brother Huggins retired in 1989 after 36 years of service with the Louisville & Nashville Railroad and CSX Transportation. Brother Huggins was a Signal Maintainer at Flomaton, Alabama, at the time of his retirement.

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**LARRY F. HUMPHREY**—retired member of **LOCAL 43**. Brother Humphrey retired in 1987 after 44 years of service with the Chicago & North Western Railway. Brother Humphrey was a Leading Signal Maintainer at Clinton, Iowa, at the time of his retirement.

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**CLAYTON A. HUNTER**—retired member of **LOCAL 126**. Brother Hunter retired in 2001 after 30 years of service with the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads. Brother Hunter was an Electronic Technician at Del Rio, Texas, at the time of his retirement. Brother Hunter served as a Local Chairman.

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**ROOSEVELT JACKSON**—retired member of **LOCAL 68**. Brother Jackson retired in 2002 after 23 years of service with the Norfolk Southern Railway and Conrail. Brother Jackson was a Signal Maintainer at Elkhart, Indiana, at the time of his retirement.

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**SAMUEL L. JACKSON**—retired member of **LOCAL 229**. Brother Jackson retired in 2009 after 30 years of service with the Western Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads. Brother Jackson was a Maintenance Foreman at San Jose, California, at the time of his retirement.

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**WALLACE R. JACKSON**—retired member of **LOCAL 104**. Brother Jackson retired in 1988 after 41 years of service with the Southern Pacific Railroad. Brother Jackson was a Signal Maintainer at Bloomington, California, at the time of his retirement. Brother Jackson is a Veteran who served during World War II.

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**CLIFFORD T. JOHNSON**—retired member of **LOCAL 33**. Brother Johnson retired in 2006 after 36 years of service with the BNSF Railway Company. Brother Johnson was a Signalman at Kansas City, Kansas, at the time of his retirement. Brother Johnson served as Second Vice President.

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**LEO J. JOHNSON**—retired member of **LOCAL 86**. Brother Johnson retired in 1990 after 41 years of service with Conrail. Brother Johnson was an Electronic Technician at Utica, New York, at the time of his retirement.

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**CECIL E. JONES**—retired member of **LOCAL 227**. Brother Jones retired in 1994 after 42 years of service with the New York Central, Milwaukee Road, and Soo Line Railroads. Brother Jones was a System Signal Testman at the time of his retirement.

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**W.A. JUST**—retired member of **LOCAL 87**. Brother Just retired in 1995 after 42 years of service with the Burlington Northern Railroad. Brother Just was a Signal Maintainer at Medora, North Dakota, at the time of his retirement. Brother Just served as a Local Vice President.

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**JOHN T. KARP**—retired member of **LOCAL 102**. Brother Karp retired in 2000 after 38 years of service with the Pennsylvania and Penn Central Railroads, Conrail, and Amtrak. Brother Karp was a Supervisor C&S at Morrisville, Pennsylvania, at the time of his retirement.

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**D.H. KENNEDY**—retired member of **LOCAL 1**. Brother Kennedy retired in 1990 after 42 years of service with the Pennsylvania and Penn Central Railroads, and Conrail. Brother Kennedy was a Maintainer Testman at Lewistown, Pennsylvania, at the time of his retirement. Brother Kennedy served as Local Chairman.

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**KENNETH “KENNY” S. KRALIK**—retired member of **LOCAL 138**. Brother Kralik retired in 2018 after 35 years of service with Amtrak and the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad. Brother Kralik was a Signalman at Fredericksburg, Virginia, at the time of his retirement.

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**FLOYD J. KRIESEL**—retired member of **LOCAL 220**. Brother Kriesel retired in 1981 after 40 years of service with the Milwaukee Road Railroad. Brother Kriesel was a Signal Maintainer at Winona, Minnesota, at the time of his retirement. Brother Kriesel served as a Local Trustee for 12 years.

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**WILLIAM “BILL” F. MESSNER**—retired member of **LOCAL 40**. Brother Messner retired in 1991 after 42 years of service with the Pennsylvania Railroad and Conrail. Brother Messner was a Signalman at South Park, Pennsylvania, at the time of his retirement.

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**ROBERT “BOBBY” E. PARCELL**—retired member of **LOCAL 138**. Brother Parcell retired in 1984 after 35 years of service with the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac and Seaboard Coast Line Railroads. Brother Parcell was a Signal Electrical Technician at Richmond, Virginia, at the time of his retirement. Brother Parcell served as General Chairman. Brother Parcell is a U.S. Army Purple Heart Veteran who served during the Korean War.

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**NORMAN L. PRALLE**—retired member of **LOCAL 8**. Brother Pralle retired in 1996 after 43 years of service with the Union Pacific Railroad. Brother Pralle was a CTC Maintainer at Harroman, Wyoming, at the time of his retirement.

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**EDWIN O. ROSEBURE**—retired member of **LOCAL 104**. Brother Rosebure retired in 1996 after 43 years of service with the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads. Brother Rosebure was a Signal Maintainer at West Colton, California, at the time of his retirement. Brother Rosebure served as Vice General Chairman and Local Chairman.

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**GEORGE B. STANISCIA**—retired member of **LOCAL 40**. Brother Staniscia retired in 1988 after 40 years of service with the Pennsylvania Railroad and Conrail. Brother Staniscia was a Signalman at the time of his retirement.

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**MARK T. TANSEY**—active member of **LOCAL 102**. Brother Tansey had 9 years of service with Amtrak. Brother Tansey was a Signal Maintainer at Newark, New Jersey, at the time of his passing.

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**HARVEY R. VANDALL, JR.**—retired member of **LOCAL 123**. Brother Vandall retired in 1991 after 46 years of service with the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway and CSX Transportation. Brother Vandall was a Signal Inspector at Livonia, Michigan, at the time of his retirement. Brother Vandall served as Local President and Local Vice President. Brother Vandall is a Veteran who served during the Korean War.

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**THOMAS “TOM” D. WHITE**—retired member of **LOCAL 188**. Brother White retired in 1996 after 30 years of service with the Burlington Northern Railroad. Brother White was a Signal Maintainer at Cheney, Washington, at the time of his retirement. Brother White served as Local President. Brother White served in the National Guard.

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**EDITOR’S NOTE:**

Please notify Grand Lodge of the passing of retired BRS members.

*Email: [membership@brs.org](mailto:membership@brs.org)*

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# SIGNALMAN'S STORE

**BRS WATCHES** — Gold BRS logo on the face.

**CAPS** — Adjustable headband. Many different styles and colors available.

**NAVY WINDSHIRT** — 100% polyester microfiber with 100% nylon taffeta lining. Includes side seam pockets.

**OXFORD SHIRTS** — Long-sleeve dress shirts contain a double yoke, button-down banded collar, and dress placket with pearl-tone buttons. Constructed from a blend of 60% cotton and 40% polyester material.

**GOLF SHIRTS** — are constructed from wrinkle resistant, snag-proof, fade resistant material.

**CANVAS COAT** — Made of 100% cotton canvas with BRS colorlight logo embroidered in red and green. Available in black or brown.

**WOOL/LEATHER BRS JACKETS** — Heavyweight wool shell, nylon lining, with leather sleeves and collar. Embroidered four-color BRS emblem. Available in black only.

**SAFETY KNIT BEANIE** — Made of 100% acrylic with 3M Reflective Thread Band, approximately 8½" long. Lime green/reflective, one size fits all.

**Make check or money order payable to:**  
Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen

**MAIL PAYMENT AND ORDER TO:**  
Signalman's Store Fulfillment  
4801 Viewpoint Place  
Cheverly, MD 20781

ITEM DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
BRS Flag (3' x 5')		85.00	
BRS Flag (2'x3')		53.50	
Golf Balls (pack of 3)		9.75	
Coffee Mug		8.00	
Pocket Watch		94.50	
Wrist Watch		115.50	
Mantle/Desk Clock		132.00	

HATS	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
Cap (pink)		16.00	
Cap (black w/colorlight on brim)		18.00	
Cap (black w/BRS on brim)		14.00	
Cap (black)		11.00	
Cap (blue)		11.00	
Cap (gray)		11.00	
Safety Beanie (lime green)		17.00	
Cap (black dye sub)		18.00	
Cap (brown diamond plate)		18.00	

APPAREL	S	M	L	XL	2X	3X	4X	PRICE	TOTAL
Signal Graphic T-Shirt								14.00	
Union Strong T-Shirt (navy)								16.00	
Union Strong T-Shirt (charcoal)								16.00	
Golf Shirt (black w/logo)								37.50	
Golf Shirt (burgundy w/logo)								37.50	
Golf Shirt (navy w/logo)								37.50	
Golf Shirt (steel blue w/logo)								37.50	
Golf Shirt (women's burgundy w/logo)								37.50	
Oxford Dress Shirt (blue)								48.00	
Oxford Dress Shirt (gray)								48.00	
Oxford Dress Shirt (white)								48.00	
Navy Windshirt								60.75	
Black Wool & Leather Coat								195.00	
Black Canvas Coat								85.00	
Brown Canvas Coat								85.00	

CLEARANCE ITEMS	S	M	L	XL	2X	3X	4X	PRICE	TOTAL
Black Sweatshirt (quarter zip)								35.00	
Blue Jacket								53.00	
Available sizes in un-shaded boxes								<b>TOTAL</b>	

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ CERTIFICATE # \_\_\_\_\_

ORDER ONLINE AT [WWW.BRS.ORG](http://WWW.BRS.ORG)

# SIGNALMAN'S STORE



CHARCOAL



NAVY



BLUE



WHITE



GRAY



GRAPHIC T-SHIRT

**UNION STRONG T-SHIRT**

Graphic Shown Imprinted on Back of Shirt

**OXFORD SHIRTS**



WRIST WATCH



BROWN CANVAS COAT



BLACK WOOL & LEATHER COAT



BLACK CANVAS COAT



POCKET WATCH



WINDSHIRT



BURGUNDY\*



BLACK



NAVY



STEEL BLUE

**GOLF SHIRTS** (\*Women's sizes available in Burgundy only)



SAFETY KNIT BEANIE



**\$35**

**CLEARANCE ITEMS**

Black Sweatshirt ..... ~~\$42.00~~ \$35.00

Blue Jacket ..... ~~\$63.00~~ \$53.00



**\$53**



FLAG



ASSORTED CAPS



MANTLE CLOCK

# AFL-CIO NATIONAL BOYCOTTS



## HOSPITALITY, TRANSPORTATION & TRAVEL

### SUBMITTED BY UNITE HERE!

Please support the workers in these hotels by continuing to boycott the following properties:

- ANCHORAGE, AK: Hilton; Sheraton
- CALIFORNIA: Hyatt Regency Santa Clara, Hyatt Regency Sacramento, Hyatt Fisherman's Wharf San Francisco, Hilton Long Beach, Le Meridien San Diego, Hilton LAX—*This includes the Crowne Plaza Hotel LAX, Yokoso Sushi Bar, the Landing Restaurant, Century Taproom, and the Boulevard Market Cafe.*
- RHODE ISLAND: Renaissance Providence Downtown Hotel
- SEATTLE: Grand Hyatt Seattle and Hyatt at Olive 8 Seattle

## OTHER

**SUBMITTED BY Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC)**

- Reynolds American, Inc., Vuse e-cigarettes

## FOOD

**SUBMITTED BY United Steelworkers (USW)**

- Palmero Pizza

**SUBMITTED BY Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union (BCTGM)**

- Mondelez International Snack Foods (those made in Mexico)

## LEGAL

**SUBMITTED BY American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees**

- Gleason, Dunn, Walsh & O'Shea
- McDonald, Lamond, Canzoneri and Hickernell

When some labor disputes with businesses cannot be resolved, the AFL-CIO supports its affiliates by endorsing their boycotts. A boycott is an act of solidarity by voluntarily abstaining from the purchase or use of a product or service.

## POLICY GUIDELINE FOR ENDORSEMENT OF AFFILIATES' BOYCOTTS

The AFL-CIO Executive Council has developed policy guidelines that regulate how the federation endorses boycotts undertaken by its affiliates. To get AFL-CIO sanction, boycotts should be directed at primary employers.

### THE GUIDELINES INCLUDE THESE PROVISIONS:

- All requests to the national AFL-CIO for endorsement must be made by a national or international union.
- Any affiliated union with a contract in force with the same primary employer will be contacted by the AFL-CIO to determine whether there is an objection to the federation's endorsement.
- Affiliates will be asked to provide the AFL-CIO with background information on the dispute in a confidential information survey. Prior to endorsement of the boycott, the executive officers, or their designees, will meet with the national union's officers, or their designees, to discuss the union's strategic plan and timetable for the boycott, or other appropriate tactics, and to discuss the federation's role.
- The national or international union initiating the boycott is primarily responsible for all boycott activities; the AFL-CIO will provide supplemental support.
- Boycotts will be carried on the AFL-CIO national boycott list for a period of one year, and the endorsement will expire automatically at the end of that time. National and international unions may request one-year extensions of the listings for actions where an organizing or bargaining campaign is actively in place.

*(These guidelines were adopted by the AFL-CIO Executive Council in April 2011.)*

# A Helping Hand — The Thomson Foundation

## *Financial Assistance for Daughters of Deceased Railroad Employees*

**J**ohn Edgar Thomson was the third president of the Pennsylvania Railroad and led the company from 1852 to 1874. Although John Thomson never had children of his own, he often pondered on the difficulties of orphaned girls. In that era, a fatherless boy could usually get a trade school education or find employment; a girl had little opportunity for either.

In his will, Mr. Thomson dedicated a portion of his estate in the form of a trust fund for the education and maintenance of female orphans of railway employees whose fathers may have died while in the discharge of their duties. After his death in 1874, the trust fund was established for the daughters of men killed in railroad service. Subsequently, The John Edgar Thomson Foundation was founded when Mrs. Thomson opened a girl's boarding school in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in December of 1882.

Today, the Foundation continues its objective by providing aid to a substantial number of girls throughout the United States in the form of financial assistance and healthcare benefits. To be eligible, the employee must have been actively employed by any United States railroad at the time of his or her death; the cause does not

need to be work related. Eligibility is also dependent on the daughter and the surviving parent remaining unmarried. Family income and expenses are also considered when determining eligibility.

The monthly allowance made under the grant may cover the period from infancy to high school graduation, and in some circumstances to age 24, to assist the grantees that are pursuing a higher education. The Foundation also offers special healthcare benefits.

Funding for the work of the Foundation is completely independent of any railroad. It neither solicits nor receives funds from the public. ■

### **Further information and applications may be obtained by writing to:**

#### **The John Edgar Thomson Foundation**

201 S. 18th Street, Suite 318

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Telephone: (215) 545-6083

Fax: (215) 545-5102 • Toll free: (800) 888-1278

Email: [sjethomson@aol.com](mailto:sjethomson@aol.com)

Website: [www.jethomsonfoundation.com](http://www.jethomsonfoundation.com)

## **Union Plus Scholarship Program**

**ELIGIBILITY** — Current and retired members of participating unions, their spouses and their dependent children (as defined by IRS regulations). At least one year of continuous union membership by the applicant, applicant's spouse or parent (if applicant is a dependent). The one-year membership minimum must be satisfied by May 31, 2019.

**APPLICATION TIMELINE** — Applications are available starting in mid-June, and a complete application must be received on or before 12:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) on January 31, 2019. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.

**SCHOLARSHIP AWARD AMOUNTS** — Amounts range from \$500 to \$4,000. These one-time cash awards are for study beginning in the Fall of 2019. Students may re-apply each year.

**AWARD DATE** — The Scholarship Committee will determine recipients of scholarship awards by May 31

each year. During the first week of June award recipients will be individually notified by mail, and all applicants will be sent an email with notification that the award list is posted. Please note that due to the volume of applications we cannot provide any information on the status of an application before award announcements are made.

### **OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

The students selected for university, college, trade or technical school scholarships represent a wide sampling of backgrounds, union affiliations, goals and accomplishments. The selection process is very competitive since we receive over 5,000 applications each year.

**To receive mobile text alerts about education-related deadlines and information, text STUDENT to 22555.**

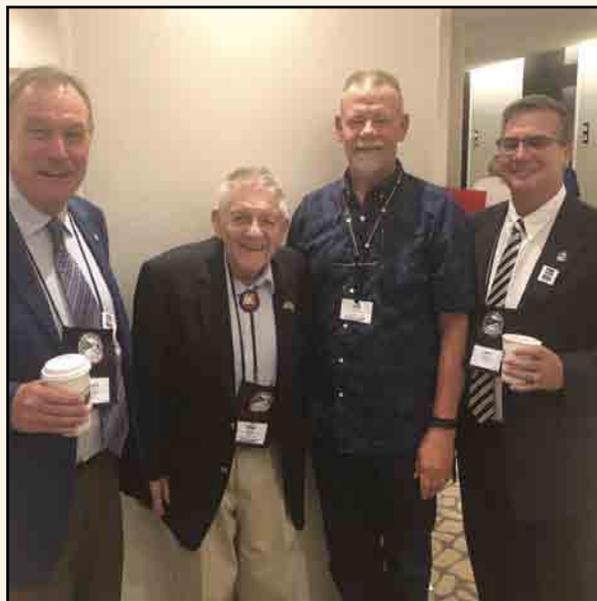
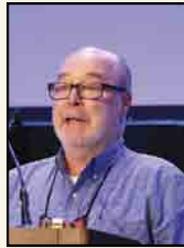
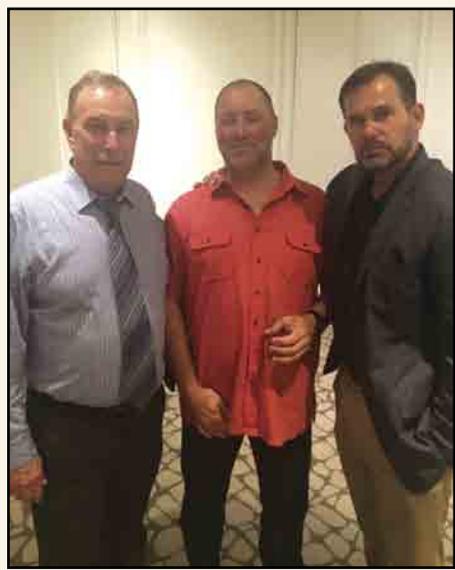
[www.unionplus.org/benefits/money/union-plus-scholarships](http://www.unionplus.org/benefits/money/union-plus-scholarships)



# BRS CONVENTION

*“There’s something wrong in America when corporations are making billions of dollars in profits, and they’re asking their workers to give up on benefits and to pay more on health care.”*

— MASSACHUSETTS AFL-CIO PRESIDENT STEVE TOLMAN

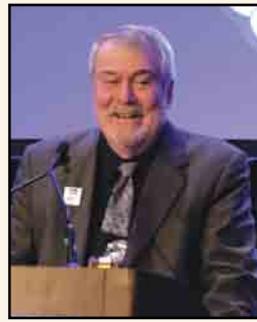


# BRS CONVENTION



*"The union has your back,  
from the first day on the job to  
the last day of your life."*

— TCU PRESIDENT AND CRLO  
CHAIRMAN BOB SCARDELLETTI



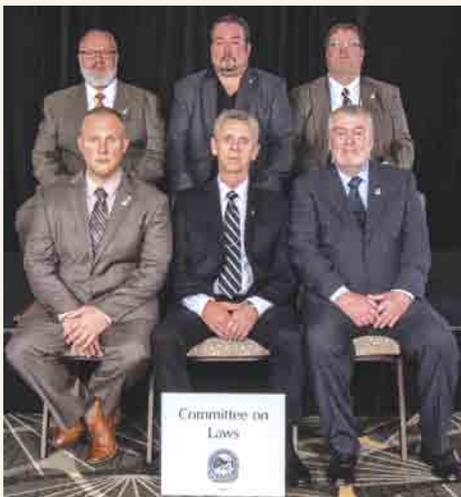
BOSTON 2018

# BRS CONVENTION



*“You’ve been part of a movement that was the first movement in mankind to create a middleclass, there was never a middle-class anywhere in the world before unions emerged.”*

— CONGRESSMAN MIKE CAPUANO



BOSTON 2018

# BRS CONVENTION



*“It is only through the diligence of your union, your superb training, your commitment to fighting for stronger safety rules, and your desire to stand up for one another that the lives and health of Brother and Sister Signalmen are protected.”*

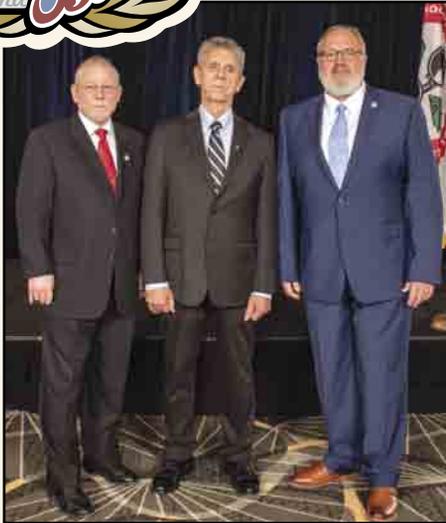
— IBB INTERNATIONAL  
PRESIDENT NEWTON JONES

BOSTON 2018

# BRS CONVENTION



BOSTON 2018



*“The future of our benefits will always be dependent on strong labor unions built on strong member activism.”*

— RRB LABOR MEMBER  
WALT BARROWS



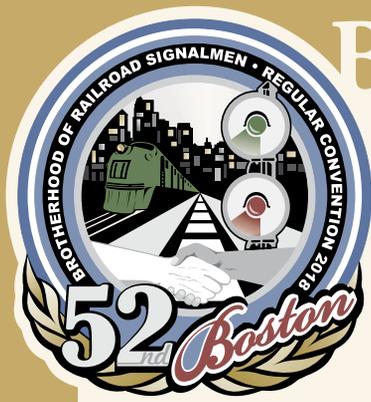
# BRS CONVENTION



*“We were proud to pay our union dues because we knew what that benefit got us.”*

— BLET  
PRESIDENT  
DENNIS PIERCE

BOSTON 2018



# BRS CONVENTION

BOSTON 2018



Southeast  
General Committee



Port Authority  
Trans Hudson  
General Committee



Southern Joint  
General Committee



Chicago  
Metropolitan  
General Committee

*“So, we have a chance this November, like President Trumka said, we can send a message to all those politicians who seek to destroy our movement. Pack your bags. This November, we’re going to run you out of town on a rail.”*

— TCU PRESIDENT AND CRLO CHAIRMAN  
BOB SCARDELLETTI



Louisville &  
Nashville  
General Committee



New Jersey  
Transit  
General Committee

# BRS CONVENTION



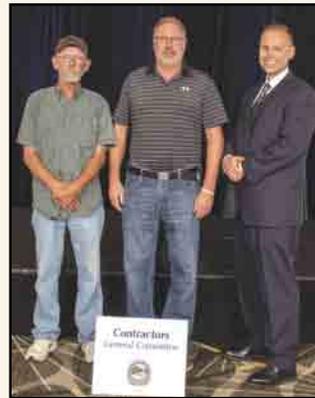
Illinois  
Central Gulf  
General Committee



Soo Line  
General Committee



Safetran  
General Committee



Centaurius  
General Committee

*"I'll never forget the size and the power of that strike. I'll never forget the way the company tried to break the union, but they didn't break that union."*

— PRESIDENT W. DAN PICKETT

SPEAKING ON THE STRIKE AGAINST THE PITTSTON COAL COMPANY.



United  
General Committee



Northeast General  
Committee



Union Railroad  
General Committee

Bessemer &  
Lake Erie  
General Committee

BOSTON 2018

# PHOTO CONTEST

WINNERS FOR 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2018



*A rainbow appears after a spring shower over the westbound signals at HN Cabin interlocker where the CSXT crosses the Alton and Southern in Washington Park, Illinois. Photo submitted by Local 132 member Anthony Holdener.*



*Matthew Breasbois, a member of Local 24, works on a pole line to restore power on the Tennessee pass in southern Colorado. Photo submitted by Matthew Breasbois.*

# MEMBER NEWS

## LOCAL 71 NEWS

### ROBERT R. KLAUSS RETIRES



Photo of retired Local 71 Recording-Financial Secretary Robert.R. Klaus at his retirement party in Evansville, Indiana, on September 1, 2018.

**PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT:**  
Retired Local 71 member J.S. "Steve" Higgins, R.R. "Bob" Klaus, Retired Local 71 member Bill Cundiff, and Local 71 President, J.E. "Jason" Wade.



## LOCAL 34 NEWS

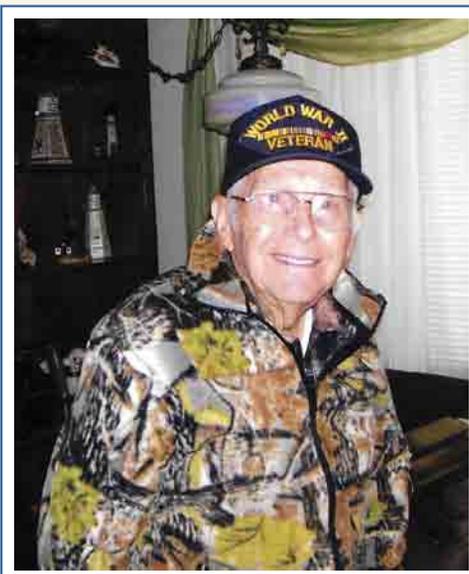
### BROTHER TED MACKEN AND FAMILY FUNDRAISER

A fundraiser spearheaded by retired BRS Vice President West George E. Jones has raised \$2,130 for Brother Ted Macken and his family.

Brother Macken, a retired member of Local 34 and a former General Chairman with the Union Pacific General

Committee, lost his home and all his belongings to a wild-fire near Redding, California.

The funds have been collected and forwarded to Brother Macken who would like to thank all who donated and wished him well during this very difficult time.



## LOCAL 152 NEWS

### JOSEPH MEYERS CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

Brother Meyers started his railroad career in 1942 as a section hand on the Southern Pacific Railroad.

He served in the United States Army Air Forces during WWII. After returning from war in 1945, he held the positions of Section Hand, Assistant Signalman, Signalman, and finally Lead Signalman with the railroad.

Joseph spent several years on the Cascade mountains as Lead Signalman, then transferring to Salem where he spent 17 years in the same territory.

After 37 years of service, Brother Meyers retired on his 60th birthday and was officially a centenarian on September 16, 2018.

*IT'S BACK AND BETTER THAN EVER!*

# USA'S 2019 CALENDAR —FEATURING— USA's **2-Guns-A-Week** Sweepstakes!

**SUPPORT TWO GREAT CAUSES -  
THE USA & YOUR LOCAL!**

- Featuring union member photos
- Great brands like Remington, Savage and Ruger
- Great odds to win!

**YOUR LOCAL CAN EARN \$1,000  
AND A SHOTGUN OR RIFLE!**



**SUPPORT YOUR PASSION FOR HUNTING,  
SHOOTING AND THE GREAT OUTDOORS.**

**GET YOUR CALENDAR TODAY!  
[unionsportsmen.org/calendar/](http://unionsportsmen.org/calendar/)**

Or contact Walt Ingram at 615-831-6751 or [walt@unionsportsmen.org](mailto:walt@unionsportsmen.org)