



NEWS

MARCH
2008

PUBLISHED BY THE BLET, A DIVISION OF THE RAIL CONFERENCE, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

BLET helps grant a special wish

CSX helps BLET give 13-year-old with cancer one of 'the best days of his life'

Josh Mills had a day to remember on February 23, thanks to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen and CSX.

Josh, 13, was made an "Honorary Locomotive Engineer" by the BLET and was given a behind the scenes tour of the CSX rail yard in Flint, Mich. He also enjoyed an authentic railroad lunch served in a vintage cook car and even got to meet a CSX railroad police officer along with his dog, Max.

Josh and his father Tony were extended these unique courtesies by CSX and the BLET in hopes of giving the family some special memories that will last a lifetime.

At just 13 years old, Josh has spent the last six months battling a cancerous brain tumor.

Josh the "Trainiac"

Joshua Mills loves trains.

"I call him a trainiac because he's such a maniac about trains," said his father, Tony.

Josh has studied railroad history as well as modern day railroading. He knows specific facts, such as when the

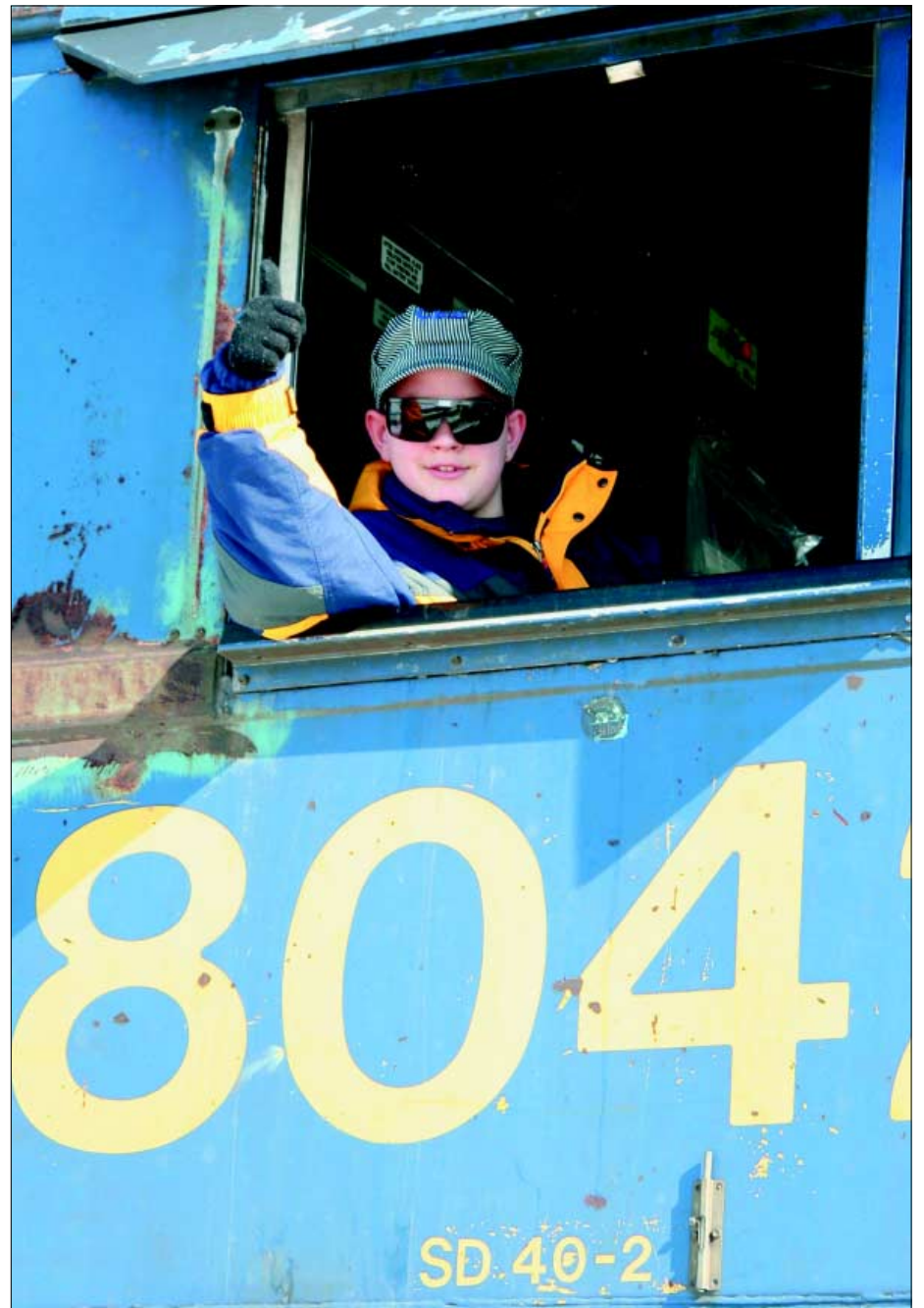
transcontinental railroad was completed, and he can also identify various diesel locomotives based on knowledge gained from the Microsoft Train Simulator game (which he plays on a regular basis). Josh also spends a lot of time in his basement with his dad working on his HO scale model train.

In early November, Josh complained of a severe headache that wouldn't go away. He was forced to come home from school early one day because the headache was so severe that it caused vomiting and double vision.

Doctors at the University of Michigan Hospital noticed that his left eye wasn't moving in conjunction with his right eye, and upon further examination, they found a brain tumor about the size of a tennis ball.

Josh was with his father Tony and mother Alanna when doctors gave them the news. Tony said he and Alanna were beside themselves when they heard the news, but were heartened by Josh's brave reaction.

See Josh Mills, Page 2



Josh Mills, 13, enjoys the view from the engineer's seat of a locomotive in the CSX rail yard in Flint, Mich., on February 23. Josh suffers from a rare form of cancer and has endured a brain surgery to remove the tumor as well as ongoing chemo treatments. Thanks in part to the generosity of CSX, the BLET was able to put together a trip to the CSX yard in Josh's home town of Flint, Mich., to help give Josh and his family a day to remember.

Hours of Service survey coming

Goal is to reduce fatigue, improve scheduling; Membership input needed

Train and engine service employees will get a chance this spring to help their union and the Federal Railroad Administration better understand their work schedule-related fatigue issues. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen and the United Transportation Union are cooperating with the FRA in this project.

"We need to develop a better understanding of the

work/rest schedules and sleep patterns of operating crews and to evaluate the relationship between these schedules and fatigue," says BLET National President Don Hahs. "Once we have data that allows us to identify fatigue-related problems specific to operating crafts, we will be able to work toward reducing the risk of fatigue-related accidents and incidents and improving the quality of life for our members."

According to Grady Cothen, the Federal Railroad Administration's Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety, "A great deal has been learned about the effects fatigue has on human performance. However, when it comes to the railroad industry, more research is needed since only minimal data exists regard-

See Hours of Service, Page 7

Tentative contract at Amtrak

The BLET and Amtrak have reached tentative agreement covering 1,300 passenger engineers who operate trains over Amtrak's 21,000-mile, 46-state system.

The new contract is based exclusively on the recommendations of Presidential Emergency Board 242 and is typically identical to agreements reached by nine other unions earlier this year. It provides for wage improvements amounting to a 34.7 percent increase over the hourly rate in effect at the end of the last agreement, 100% retroactive pay, and no work rule changes.

"There are still numerous

other collective bargaining goals that must be addressed and won in the next bargaining round," said Amtrak General Chairman Mark Kenny. "However, this tentative agreement stands as a monumental step toward equalizing the eight years of inequity and frustration BLET Members, and all Amtrak employees have been forced to confront on a daily basis."

A copy of the tentative agreement and associated documents are on the Amtrak General Committee website: <http://bletamt.org>. Ballots on the tentative agreement are due by March 28. •

BLET NEWS

BLET helps 13-year-old cancer patient

Josh Mills

Continued from Page 1

"He just said, 'Hmm, my first tumor,'" Tony said.

The tumor, called glioblastoma multiforme, was not a solid mass that could easily be removed. Tony said it was the most aggressive type of brain tumor and compared it to paint being poured over the brain — a spreading mass that would be difficult to remove.

Doctors rushed to perform emergency surgery and warned that it could cause paralysis, blindness and even brain damage. But when Josh emerged from nearly seven hours of surgery, he was hungry and ready to sit up.

"I know I've witnessed a true miracle," Tony said. "There's no other way to explain it."

The surgery was followed by several weeks of chemotherapy treatments, and Josh bears a large scar from the surgery.

Reaching out to the BLET

It was against this backdrop that Josh's uncle, Charles Nichols, e-mailed the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen.

"My nephew, who is 13, is a lover of trains and railroading," Nichols wrote. "About one week ago, he was rushed to the University of Michigan Hospital af-

ter a tumor in his brain was discovered. The tumor was removed, but unfortunately, it is cancerous. Do you know of a locomotive school that I could contact that would give my nephew an honorary degree as a locomotive engineer? I am sure that this would bring some joy to my young nephew."

The request touched the hearts of many BLET officers and staff, including BLET National President Don Hahs. President Hahs instructed his staff to not just accommodate the request, but to give the young man and his family a special day that they would cherish forever.

The Mills family lives in Swartz Creek, Mich., just a few miles from the CSX yard in Flint. The idea emerged to see if CSX would be willing to host Josh and his dad for a visit.

It was decided that if the Mills were to visit the rail yard, then safety would be of the utmost importance. As a result, calls were made to Larry James, a member of BLET Division 284 who resides in Parkersburg, W.Va. and is the BLET System SENSE Coordinator at CSX.

Brother James took the request to the highest levels at CSX. Once it was assured that the BLET would adhere to the strictest of safety standards, and after stressing that the visit would be a special occasion only for these circumstances, Tony L. Ingram, Executive



Josh and his father Tony show off their gifts; A lantern from the UTU, a certificate from the BLET making Josh an Honorary Locomotive Engineer, and several books from the BLET National Division.

Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at CSX, granted approval for the visit.

A Day To Remember

Accommodations were made to host Josh and his father on February 23.

When Josh and his father Tony arrived at the CSX yard office in Flint, they were both presented with striped CSX locomotive engineer caps by Bud Morse, SENSE Safety Coordinator on CSX's Chicago Division and a member of BLET Division 937 in Toledo, Ohio. As Josh put on the cap, the large scar left by the surgery to remove the tumor was visible, going from his right ear to the middle of his head.

Brother Morse also presented Josh with a specially engraved CSX pocket watch.

John Bentley of the BLET National Division Public Relations Department presented Josh with a certificate naming him an "Honorary Locomotive Engineer." The certificate was mounted on a plaque and was signed by President Hahs, First Vice President Ed Rodziewicz and National Secretary-Treasurer Bill Walpert. The National Division also gave Josh a BLE History Book along with a North American railroad atlas and a field guide to diesel locomotives.

Dan Elesone, a CSX K9 officer and 33-year railroad veteran, introduced Josh to his dog Max inside the yard office. A German Shepherd born and trained in Czechoslovakia, Max weighs about 80 pounds and only understands commands in German or Czech. Max performed several "sit" and "stay" commands for Josh while Elesone explained the duties of railroad police and K9 officers. Later, Elesone took Josh for a ride in his police car and helped Josh write out a ticket to his dad for "making him do his homework."

Next on the agenda was lunch. Brother Morse said members of the BLET and United Transportation Union have a good working relationship in the Flint area. When Morse discussed the special visit for Josh during a safety meeting, UTU members volunteered to help.

"These are all family men with children of their own," Brother Morse said. "When it comes to something like helping Josh, everyone really comes together."

Ken Lewis, the UTU safety chairman for the area, volunteered to fire up the railroad's old cook car. The car, used during World War II to feed soldiers traversing the country on troop

trains, has been in the Flint yard for many years. Lewis said the car was originally built for the Pere Marquette Railroad and has been used recently for safety committee meetings.

On behalf of the UTU, Lewis presented Josh with a railroad lantern, binoculars, hats, and several other train-themed gifts.

Due to cold temperatures, UTU volunteers began manning the cook car on February 22, so that it would be warm enough for Josh's visit on February 23. The volunteers started a fire in the cook car's wood burning stove and tended to it all day and all night. The stove is the cook car's only heat source, and it is also where UTU volunteers prepared a lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs for Josh and his dad.

"Not very many people can say they've eaten lunch in an authentic railroad cook car," Brother Morse said.

The final part of the tour was Josh's favorite of the day — a tour inside of an actual locomotive. Josh and his dad

"Thank you for giving Josh one of the best days of his life."

— Tony Mills



Josh pets CSX police dog Max under the control of CSX Officer Dan Elesone. Elesone is a 33-year railroad police veteran who began his railroad career for Penn Central.

Railroad Retirement annuitants must file a 2007 tax return to receive stimulus payments

(Editor's Note: The U.S. Railroad Retirement Board issued the following on March 7.)

Starting in May, the U.S. Treasury will begin sending economic stimulus payments, often referred to as rebates, to more than 130 million individuals.

Most taxpayers do not need to take any extra steps to receive these payments. However, some railroad retirement annuitants, social security beneficiaries, and recipients of certain veterans' benefits, who might not otherwise need to file a 2007 tax return, must do so to receive the stimulus payment. The return must show at least \$3,000 in qualifying income.

Qualifying income includes social security benefits, the Social Security Equivalent Benefit (SSEB) portion of a railroad retirement tier I benefit, certain veterans' benefits and earned income, such as wages and net earnings from self-employment that are includable in income. For people filing joint tax returns, only a total of \$3,000 of qualifying income from both spouses is required.

To figure their qualifying income, annuitants who would not otherwise file a 2007 tax return should add together the following amounts:

- The SSEB portion of tier I benefits or special guaranty amounts reported in Box 5 of the 2007 Form RRB-1099, which annuitants would have received in

January 2008. (Do not include amounts reported on Form RRB-1099-R.)

- Social security benefits reported in Box 5 of the 2007 Form SSA-1099, which would have been received in January 2008.

- Veterans' benefits received in 2007, including veterans' disability compensation, disability pensions, or survivors' benefits received from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

- Wages reported on Form W-2.

- Net earnings from self-employment that are includable in income.

A Form 1040A illustration on the IRS Web site (www.irs.gov) shows the limited number of lines that need to be filled out by recipients of social security, railroad retirement and veterans' benefits who are not required to file an income tax return but are doing so to receive a stimulus payment. The key line for reporting 2007 benefits is Line 14a of Form 1040A. The IRS has advised that while this line only mentions social security, railroad retirement annuitants should use this line even if their only benefits were railroad retirement or veterans' benefits. In addition, taxpayers in these groups should write the words "Stimulus Payment" at the top of the Form 1040A.

The IRS is also reminding taxpayers with social

security, railroad retirement or veterans' benefits who have already filed but did not report their qualifying benefits on either Line 14a of Form 1040A (or Line 20a of Form 1040) that they may need to file an amended return in some situations to receive a larger stimulus payment. Taxpayers who already have filed but did not report these benefits can file an amended return by using Form 1040X.

Extensive and detailed information on the stimulus payments is available on the IRS Web site and annuitants are strongly encouraged to visit the site.

Individuals who need to file a return this year to receive a stimulus payment may be able to take advantage of thousands of free tax preparation sites nationwide for low-income and elderly taxpayers.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program provides help to low and moderate income taxpayers. Call 1-800-906-9887 to locate the nearest VITA site.

The Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) Program provides free tax help to people age 60 and older. As part of the IRS-sponsored TCE Program, AARP offers the Tax-Aide counseling program at more than 7,000 sites nationwide during the filing season. To find an AARP Tax-Aide site call 1-888-227-7669 or visit the AARP Web site at www.aarp.org.

Register to vote in fall elections!

Registering to vote is now easier than ever for BLET members thanks to a new online service provided by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Clicking the link provided will allow members to input their relevant personal information and mail their voter registration information to their local board of elections.

The BLET is urging all members to register and vote in the upcoming election in November of 2008.

With a labor-friendly Congress currently serving in Washington, D.C., it is of the utmost importance to elect a labor-friendly candidate for the White House. Registering to vote is the first

and biggest step a BLET member can take toward reaching that goal.

[https://
electionimpact.votenet.com/
teamsters/voterreg/index.cfm](https://electionimpact.votenet.com/teamsters/voterreg/index.cfm)

Josh Mills

Continued from Page 2

were given safety glasses, ear plugs and gloves before entering the rail yard.

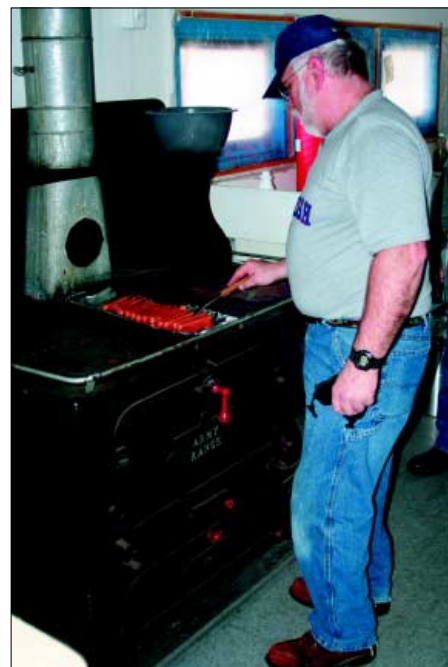
Josh was familiar with many of the controls because of his knowledge of the Microsoft Train Simulator game. He was allowed to sit in the engineer's seat where he was shown the throttle, speedometer, and other aspects of the engineer's control panel. Josh enjoyed blowing the locomotive's horn.

Others who helped make Josh's special day such a success were: CSX Trainmaster Mike Lakel; Dave Norman, Local Chairman of Division 304 in Saginaw, Mich.; UTU Member Carl Bunzo; and UTU member Dick Berdt, who volunteered as the chef in the cook car.

After The Visit

Following Josh's special day on February 23, he was scheduled to begin another round of five chemotherapy treatments from February 25 through February 29. Another five days of treatments are scheduled for March. The new chemo will be twice as powerful as the treatments he received following his November surgery.

Josh's dad Tony expressed profuse thanks to Tony Ingram and CSX for their willingness to open their train

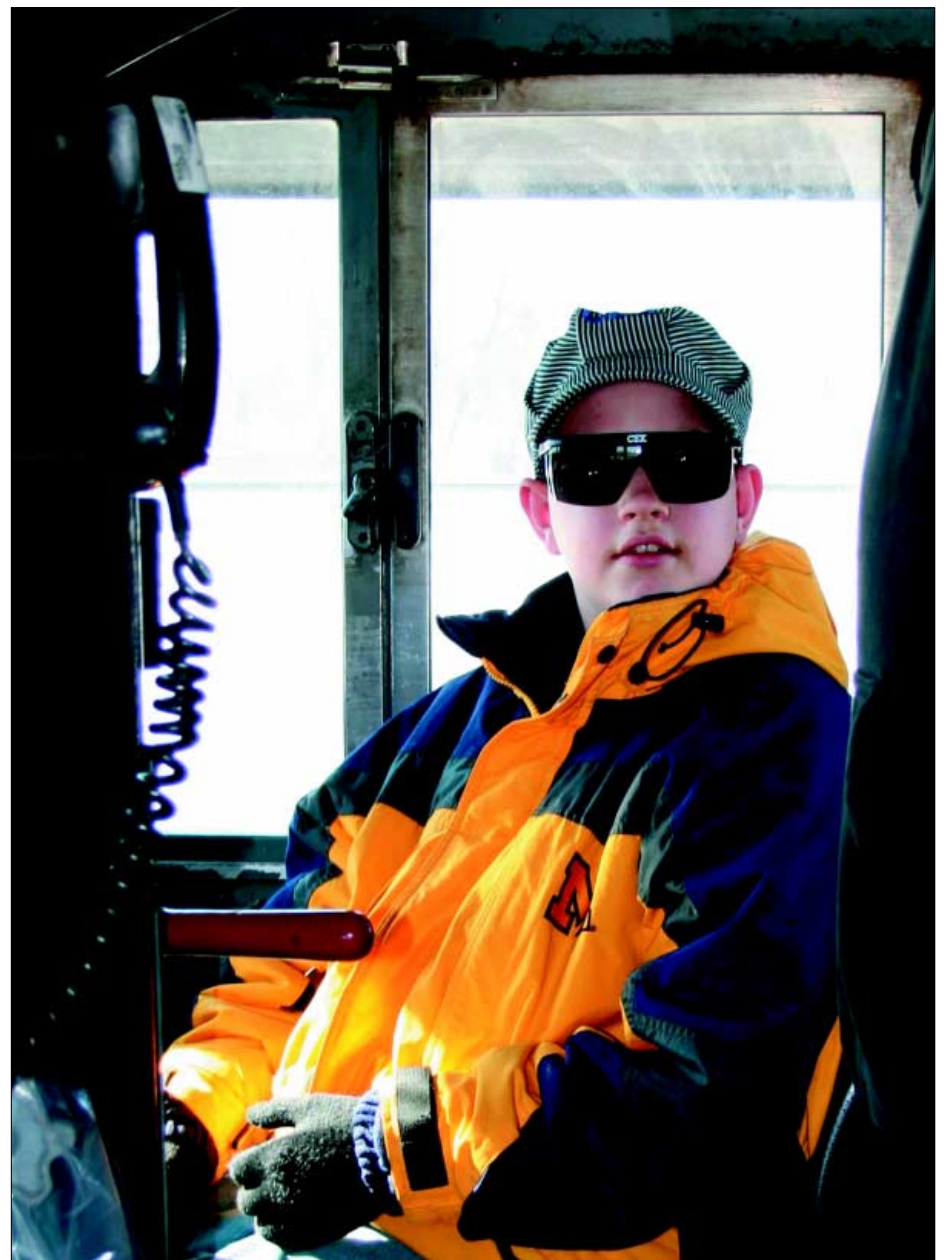


Above: UTU volunteer Dick Berdt mans the cook car's wood burning stove.
Right: Josh behind the throttle.

yard, and their hearts, to help grant Josh a special day.

He was also extremely grateful to the BLET for the courtesies extended to his son.

"Josh had a day he will never forget," Tony said. "You guys are first class. Things like this go a long way toward keeping faith in human kindness. Thank you for giving Josh one of the best days of his life." •



BLET NEWS

Newman reelected by acclamation in Mass.

George Newman was reelected by acclamation as Chairman of the BLET Massachusetts State Legislative Board at quadrennial meetings on February 21. Brother Newman is a member of BLET Division 57 in Boston and he joined the BLE on August 1, 1984.

Dan Lauzon, Division 57 (Boston), was elected by acclamation to continue as 1st Vice Chairman; A.J. Murphy, Division 57 (Boston) was elected by acclamation as 2nd Vice Chairman; Joey DeBartolomao, Division 112 (Greenfield, Mass.), was elected by acclamation as Secretary-Treasurer; Steve King, Division 312 (Boston), was elected by acclamation as Alternate Secretary-Treasurer; and Tom Hebert, Division 439 (Allston, Mass.), was elected by acclamation as Alternate Second Vice Chairman.

Brother Walter J. Nutter, long time Secretary-Treasurer of the Board, declined to be nominated again as he is planning to retire before the current four-year term expires. Brother Nutter, a member of BLET Division 57 (Boston), has served the Board as an Alternate S-T and S-T since its inception in 1991.

The delegates enjoyed informative presentations from a number of distinguished speakers.

U.S. Congressman John Tierney (D-MA, Sixth District) spoke about the challenges labor faces on Capitol Hill and the importance of the upcoming elections. He said it is important to elect a labor-friendly candidate because the President makes so many decisions that impact labor. As an example, he said the next President will be able to appoint labor-friendly judges to the U.S. Supreme Court.

John Tolman, BLET Vice President and National Legislative Representative, stressed the importance of the BLET PAC fund and the upcoming Presidential elections in his address to the delegates.

Tom Pontolillo, the BLET's Director of Regulatory Affairs, also addressed the delegates and gave a detailed overview of new Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) regulations regarding switches, derails



From left: John Tolman, BLET Vice President & National Legislative Representative; George Newman, Massachusetts SLB Chairman; Harry Hoglander, Labor Member, National Mediation Board; Dan Lauzon, Massachusetts SLB 1st Vice Chairman; and Tom Pontolillo, BLET Director of Regulatory Affairs.

and shoving moves. He told the delegates that there are some issues with the new regulations that are under appeal, both by labor and the carriers, so the regulation is not in final form yet. He said parts of the regulation are to become effective July 2008.

Les Fiorenzo, FRA Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 1, also spoke briefly regarding the new regulation. He emphasized that while railroad employees may be fined individually by FRA for violations, such fines will only occur if the employee made a "willful" violation.

Robert Naumes, BLET Designated Legal Counsel (DLC), spoke about the advantages to railroad workers using the DLC.

Harry Hoglander, Chairman, National Mediation

Board (NMB), addressed delegates for nearly an hour. He explained why the legislative process is so important, particularly the accessibility it provides. He also talked about the under-funding at NMB and the resulting case backlog. He discussed the Amtrak negotiations and how they dragged on for eight years, largely due to Amtrak's funding problems.

Massachusetts AFL-CIO President Bobby Haynes addressed the delegates. Although the BLET is no longer affiliated with the AFL-CIO at the national level, the Mass. State Legislative Board has an agreement with the AFL-CIO State Federation to cooperate whenever possible. Brother Newman is a Vice President with that State Fed and specializing on transportation issues. •

Todd reelected by acclamation in La.

Brother Arlin S. Todd was reelected by acclamation to the office of Chairman of the Louisiana State Legislative Board at quadrennial meetings in Shreveport, La., on February 27.

Brother Todd is a member of BLET Division 914 (Baton Rouge, LA) and joined the Brotherhood in May of 1974. This is his second term as Chairman of the Louisiana State Legislative Board.

Also elected were: 1st Vice Chairman Joe Rinchuso, Division 219 (Shreveport, La.); 2nd Vice Chairman Steve Hariu, Division 636 (Lafayette, La.), Secretary-Treasurer Jimmy Fuller, Division 765 (Monroe, La.); Alternate Secretary-Treasurer Steve Prator, Jr., Division 599 (Shreveport, La.); and Chaplain David Stockinger, Division 426 (Baton Rouge, La.).

In attendance were: BLET National Vice President and National Legislative Representative John

Tolman; BLET Auxiliary National President Becky Schneider; Arkansas State Legislative Board Chairman Terry Todd; and Texas State Legislative Board Chairman Terry Briggs. Guest speakers included: Roosevelt Smally, President of the Shreveport/Bossier City AFL-CIO; and Tari Bradford, liaison for U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu of Louisiana.

Representatives of BLET Designated Legal Counsel attended the meeting, including: Robert M. Tramuto of Jones and Granger; Tim Windsor and Fred Weaver of Rathmann and O'Brien; B.J. May and Clifton Starks for Hubbell, Peak, O'Neal, Napier and Leach.

The Louisiana State Legislative Board encompasses 13 BLET Divisions from six different railroads (CN, Union Pacific, BNSF Railway, Kansas City Southern, Amtrak and Mid-South) and represents approximately 950 active and retired members. •



Front row: Steve Hariu, La. SLB 2nd Vice Chairman; Joe Rinchuso, La. SLB 1st Vice Chairman; Arlin Todd, La. State Legislative Board Chairman; Jimmy Fuller, La. SLB Sec.-Treas.; and Steve Prator, La. SLB Alternate S-T. Middle row: Willie George; Terry Briggs, Texas SLB Chairman; and Marty Nichols, La. SLB Audit Committee Chairman. Back row: Wil McGilvray; John Tolman, BLET Vice President and National Legislative Representative; Dave Stockinger, La. SLB Chaplain; and Terry Todd, Arkansas SLB Chairman.

Div. 385 organizes fundraiser for 4-year-old son of BLET member

Members of BLET Division 385 in Toledo, Ohio, are organizing a fundraiser to help a member with his son's mounting medical expenses.

J.E. Swoap of Division 385 and his wife Karlyn have four children, including a 4 year-old-son named Ty. Ty suffers from Treacher Collins Syndrome, a condition that causes facial deformities, breathing problems, hearing problems, and a host of other related issues. In his four years, Ty has undergone 13 surgeries, including operations to open breathing passages and jawbone reconstruction — all related to the Treacher Collins Syndrome. Many of Ty's medical needs aren't covered by insurance,

and he is facing at least 10 more surgeries before he reaches maturity.

"Without medical attention, Ty would face life threatening health issues," said Tim DuBois of Division 385, who is helping to organize the fundraiser. "Ty is a happy, compassionate and determined child. He has overcome many challenges in his four years of life."

To help the Swoap family, Division 385 is organizing a fundraiser, "Ty's Magical Night of Hope." The event will be held on April 12 at the D.C. Ranch in Perrysburg, Ohio, from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tickets to the fundraiser are \$20 per adult, \$5 per child under age 12.

According to Brother J.T. Falk, a member of Division 385 and co-organizer of the event, Division 385 has created a website for people to learn more about Ty and Treacher Collins Syndrome, <http://www.TySwoap.com>.

Tickets for the fundraiser must be purchased by April 4, and are available through the TySwoap.com website. Members who would like to help but cannot attend the fundraiser can make donations through any Key Bank Branch to the Ty Swoap Benefit account. A flyer for the event is available for download at:

<http://www.ble-t.org/pr/pdf/TySwoapFlier.pdf> •



Register early for 70th annual EUMA in Huron, Ohio

A welcome letter from 2008 EUMA Arrangements Chairman Rodney Cutlip

EUMA 2008 is fast approaching and getting closer every day. The convention, July 6 through July 11, 2008, is going to be one of the premier events of the year for BLET officers, members and their families.

This year's EUMA is being held along the shores of Lake Erie in Huron, Ohio, at the Sawmill Creek Resort. The resort has 240 rooms and so far we have booked 135 of those rooms — so they are going fast! This resort features an 18 hole Tom Fazio championship golf course; charter fishing originating from its marina; restaurants; shops; indoor/outdoor pools; exercise room; and tennis courts. Nearby is Cedar Point Amusement

Park, water parks, wineries, the Lake Erie Islands, Maritime Museums and quaint lakefront towns. Cedar Point is known world wide as the Roller Coaster Capital of the World. Come and discover a world of personal service and hospitality at the No. 1 convention center within a few hours drive or flight to the heart of the Midwest.



Thus far we have trips planned for Cedar Point, a Toledo Mud Hens minor league baseball game, a golf outing and a charter fishing trip for the outdoorsmen. We are currently in the process of planning other activities including a hayride for kids and other kid activities based on participation.



Aerial view of Cedar Point. Image courtesy Cedar Point Amusement Park/Resort.

We think the agenda of meetings and workshops will be one of the best

and most diverse in recent years. It will feature for the first time, in the Local Chairman's workshop, arbitration from the inception at the local chairman's level up to and including arbitration at the General Committee level. For the first time ever, we are having a Post Traumatic Stress workshop and a Signal Tapes workshop. Other workshops include nuclear transport by rail, Federal Railroad Administration, Division Presidents, Secretary-Treasurer and Legislative.


We hope to see you and your families at this year's EUMA 2008 and thank you for letting me serve you as this year's Chairman. Please visit euma2008.com to make your reservations and register for the convention. Also this year those that want to pay online can with our pay pal account.

See you at the Roller Coaster Capital of the World!

Sincerely,
Rodney Cutlip
 EUMA 2008
 Arrangements Chairman
www.EUMA2008.com



EUMA guests who visit Cedar Point will be able to enjoy a ride on the famous Cedar Point & Lake Erie Railroad. This 2-4-0 coal fired steam locomotive, nicknamed Myron H., was originally built in 1922 by the Vulcan Iron Works in Wilkes Barre, Pa. Myron H. is lead locomotive today for all operations at Cedar Point. Image courtesy Cedar Point Amusement Park/Resort.




EUMA 2008 Registration Form

70th annual EUMA • July 6-11, 2008

The Lodge at Sawmill Creek Resort • Huron, Ohio

Hosted by BLET Division 385 in conjunction with Division 4



HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Chairman Rodney Cutlip and Co-Chairman Timothy DuBois report that reservations for The Lodge at Sawmill Creek can be made by calling (800) SAWMILL or by visiting www.EUMA2008.com, which will have a link to The Lodge's website.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Division: _____ BLET Title: _____ E-mail: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

I plan to attend the following workshops:

<input type="checkbox"/> Signal Diagnostics	<input type="checkbox"/> Secretary-Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Chairman & Arbitration
<input type="checkbox"/> Post Traumatic Stress	<input type="checkbox"/> Nuclear	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Rep
<input type="checkbox"/> Signal Tapes	<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Labor	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Railroad Administration

Register before May 1 and you will be entered into a drawing to win a Sawmill Creek 5 night stay!!!
We will also be giving someone a 4-some and 18 holes of golf, including a golf cart!!!

Registration*	Attendees	Price	Total
(Includes breakfast Mon.-Fri.; Sunday welcome reception; Monday poolside BBQ; and Lunch Monday, Tuesday and Thursday)			
Registration by May 1, 2008:	_____	@ \$120.00 = \$	_____
Registration after May 1, 2008:	_____	@ \$100.00 = \$	_____
Registration for children ages 4-11 by May 1, 2008:	_____	@ \$ 67.00 = \$	_____
Registration for children after ages 4-11 May 1, 2008:	_____	@ \$ 77.00 = \$	_____
Golf (18 holes, cart & lunch):	_____	@ \$ 80.00 = \$	_____
Thursday banquet:	_____	@ \$ 30.00 = \$	_____
Total Amount Enclosed:	_____	\$	

* — Registration for the 2008 EUMA is limited to the first 250 who register!

Please mail this form, along with check or money order payable to "EUMA 2008" to:
 EUMA 2008, P.O. Box 13178, Toledo, OH 43613

For additional information: Contact EUMA Arrangements Chairman Rodney Cutlip, (419) 215-9683 or Co-Chairman Timothy DuBois, (419) 250-1848, or visit www.EUMA2008.com.

Anyone needing transportation to and from Cleveland Hopkins International Airport... please let us know!!!

There is a CEDAR POINT trip on Wednesday... more details to come.
Also, a FISHING CHARTER and much more activities for you and your family are currently in the planning stages!!!

BLET NEWS

A message from Teamsters General President James P. Hoffa

The last time voters had a chance to send the country in a new direction it didn't work out so well. With the economy in shambles, a continuing jobs exodus and a president who remains shamelessly ignorant to the woes of working families, George Bush led us down the wrong fork in the path. The 2008 presidential election is our opportunity to choose a new direction, a new path.

Barack Obama is the one candidate who is best suited to lead our country in such a direction.

After polling our membership and surveying our regional and local leaders, the 1.4 million member Teamsters Union is proud to endorse Senator Obama in his bid to become president of the United States.

This endorsement begins a partnership to change America. Together, we will reinvent the political process and fight to give a voice to working families who have been ignored by

George Bush and the Republican Party for the past eight years.

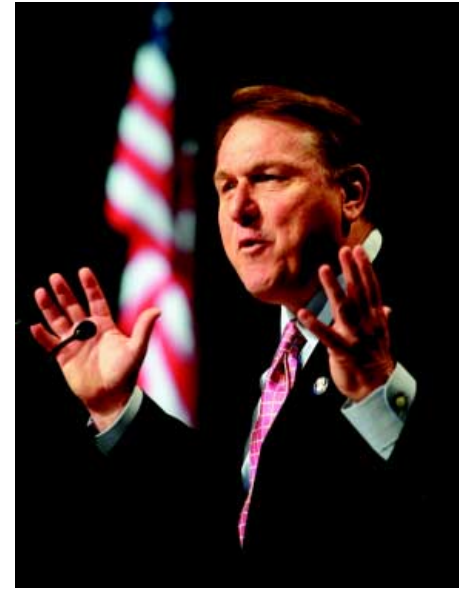
We have had the opportunity to talk candidly with Sen. Obama on several occasions about the many needs of working Americans. To that end, Senator Obama agrees with a core group of legislative goals that are essential to our union and to the well-being of our country's workforce.

The Employee Free Choice Act is true labor law reform that will protect the rights of workers and strengthen their ability to join a union and negotiate a first contract. Enacting this legislation is a top priority of Senator Obama—he even co-sponsored the legislation in the Senate. Seventy percent of Americans would join a union if given a fair chance to do so—a level playing field. The Employee Free Choice Act does just that. It gives workers the opportunity to join together and form a union without employer intimidation, threats or retaliation. Together with

Senator Obama and a pro-worker, pro-cloture Senate, we will win EFCA for America's workers.

Senator Obama also understands that America needs fair trade policies that will create a level playing field with our trading partners. He understands that the corporate race to the bottom has had a devastating impact on our economy and our communities. Senator Obama also understands that the trade policies of the Bush administration have done nothing to raise the standards of workers globally. We will work together to achieve a better balance—to keep good jobs in America and to raise wages, establish benefits and improve working conditions for workers abroad.

He understands what real people are going through. He will fight for an improved health care system, retirement security and good jobs. He will join us in our commitment to rebuild our nation's transportation infrastruc-



ture and will make appointments that make sense — people who will protect workers. In his administration, Senator Obama will ensure our toys and food are safe, that the Environmental Protection Agency actually protects the environment, enforce worker safety laws and wage and hour laws.

The Teamsters Union has been very fortunate during this election season as every candidate has been a friend of working families. Unlike recent elections, much of the debate has centered on the challenges working-class Americans face and the solutions to those challenges.

It is a debate worth having and it is a battle that requires the resources of our entire nation.

Let's join together and change the direction of our great nation. Let's choose the alternate path. Let's elect Barack Obama!

James P. Hoffa
 James P. Hoffa
 General President



SMA 2008 Registration Form 81st annual Southeastern Meeting Association Montgomery, Ala. • June 15-20, 2008



HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Visit www.HiltonFamily.com/groupage to make your reservations, or you can call 1-800 EMBASSY or (334) 269-5055. Be sure to use group code "SMA" to get the discounted room rate of \$119 per night. Cut off date is June 1, 2008.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Regular registration (prior to April 30, 2008) is \$80.00 per person. There is an additional \$20 charge for SMA dues, which all BLET members must pay in addition to the \$80 registration fee. Reservations made after April 30, 2008, will be charged an additional \$20.00 per person. Due to the nature of the events planned, an early head count is required.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Division: _____ BLET Officer/Title: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ BLET Auxiliary Title & Auxiliary No.: _____

If you are interested in any of the following activities, please indicate the number attending so we know how many plan to participate (additional fee may apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. _____ Golf on your own, \$55 green fee & cart (June 15) | 6. _____ Old Alabama tour, historic downtown tour, lunch (June 18) |
| 2. _____ Victory Land dog race track (June 16) | 7. _____ Montgomery Biscuits baseball game and dinner (June 18) |
| 3. _____ Kids Night (June 16) | 8. _____ Ladies shopping trip and lunch (June 19) |
| 4. _____ Ladies High Tea Luncheon (June 17) | 9. _____ Banquet (June 19) |
| 5. _____ Golf Tournament (June 18) | 10. _____ DLC Legal Fair (June 17) |

Please indicate which of the following workshops you would like to attend (all are on June 17):

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. _____ Local Chairman | 2. _____ Sec.-Treas. | 3. _____ Legislative Rep | 4. _____ Legal Affairs |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|

There will be baby sitters available by request. Check here if you will need a baby sitter, and then list for which events. The rate for the sitter is \$6 per hour. _____

REGISTRATION FEES

- Regular Registration fee (prior April 30, 2008): \$80.00 (All attendees 13 or older must pay the activity fee)
- SMA Dues: \$20.00 (All BLET members must pay SMA dues)
- Golf Tournament: \$60.00 per person
- A additional fee of \$20.00 per person will be charged for late registrations!!!!

Please mail this form, along with check or money order payable to "2008 SMA" to:

2008 SMA, c/o Jason Popwell, SMA Chairman
 2856 Hwy. 143, Deatsville, AL 36022

For more details: Contact Brother Popwell at: (205) 755-8741 (home); (334) 391-5347 or email: <popwelll@yahoo.com>.

Vendors are by invitation only!

UnitedHealthcare announces changes

GA-23111

Continued from Page 7

cost associated with the new plans.

Obtaining Additional Information on Plans A, B, and C

If you are interested in enrolling under any of the new benefit plans, please contact UnitedHealthcare at 800-842-5252. One of United Healthcare's customer care professionals will provide you with the following:

- Additional information and an enrollment form
- Certificate of Coverage (this document describes each benefit plan in detail)
- Answers to any other questions you may have.

A color chart specifying details of the services provided by these new plans is available here:

<http://www.ble-t.org/pr/pdf/GA-23111A-B-C.pdf>

IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Frederick C. Phelps

Frederick C. Phelps, a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, was killed in the line of duty on March 5 as he was crushed between two railroad cars while making a delivery.

Brother Phelps, 55, died about 9:20 p.m. on March 5 at Lakeside Foods Co. according to the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department. Emergency medical personnel pronounced him dead three minutes after a 911 call was placed, according to the Fond du Lac Reporter newspaper.

Phelps, an employee of the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad, belonged to BLET Division 184 in Schiller Park, Wis. Prior to working at the Wisconsin & Southern, Brother Phelps was a conductor for the CN/Wisconsin Central. He was dismissed by the CN, but maintained his BLET membership and he continued to receive representation from the BLET's CN/WC General Com-

mittee of Adjustment. His arbitration case was just heard a few weeks ago, according to Paul Aird, Legislative Representative of BLET Division 173 (Fond du Lac, Wis.).

Brother Phelps entered into the United States Navy in 1972 and was honorably discharged in 1976. He worked on his family farm for many years until he entered into the Peace Corps where he taught agriculture in Honduras from 1984 until 1989. He married Sara E. Puerto Flores on March 1, 1996 in Honduras.

He is survived by his wife Sara; two sons Jeffrey J. Phelps and F. Quincy Phelps of Whiting, Ind.; three daughters Millicent C. Phelps and Jennifer M. Phelps both of Whiting, Ind. and Crescent V. Harris of Jacksonville, Fla.; his mother Alice H. Phelps and her companion Donald Backus of Gouverneur, N.Y.; two sisters Melinda K. Virnig and her companion Thomas Ritchie of Harrisville, N.Y. and Teresa Y. and Maurice

Gutierrez of Alamogordo, N.M.; two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He was also an attendant of Whiting United Methodist Church. He enjoyed model trains and taking care of his fish and aquarium.

The Federal Railroad Administration is investigating the incident, according to spokesman Warren Flatau, who said the office investigates all deaths of on-duty employees. The investigation began on March 6 and is expected to last several months, he said.

Milwaukee-based Wisconsin & Southern operates 700 miles of track throughout south-central Wisconsin and northeastern Illinois.

Donations may be made in Frederick's memory to the Whiting United Methodist Church at 1920 Clark St., Whiting, Ind. 46394.

(Some information in this obituary from the Fond du Lac Reporter.) •

UnitedHealthcare announces open enrollment, new plans under GA 23-111

In mid-March, UnitedHealthcare announced that for the upcoming open enrollment for 2008, three new benefit plans are available under GA-23111.

These new benefit plans, called Plans A, B and C, provide new options with different costs and plan designs allowing individuals to select the plan best suited for their needs.

These changes should be of particular interest to former railroad employees and their eligible dependents who are not yet eligible for Medicare.

Special Enrollment Period — April and May 2008

Due to the addition of these three new plans, a special two month open enrollment period is being offered for this year only. The open enrollment period will begin April 1st and run through May 31st with the coverage you

select effective June 1, 2008. After this 2008 enrollment period, the next open enrollment will be May 2010. (Note that this 2008 expanded enrollment period also applies to other Plans under GA-23111 such as Plan E and Plan F)

Plan Design of Plans A, B, and C

Some of the services provided by these new plans are outlined below. Please review the accompanying chart for more details (due to space limitations, the chart is reproduced on the BLET website — see link below).

- Physician office visits and certain medical services
- Discount savings program - Rx & other health and wellness purchases
- Inpatient hospital services
- Inpatient & outpatient mental health and substance abuse services
- Surgical procedures

- Outpatient rehabilitation services
- Durable medical equipment

While all of the benefits offered by each plan are the same, they differ in the following areas:

- Annual Deductible
- Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum
- Percentage of Eligible Expenses Covered
- Monthly Cost

You pay a separate monthly cost for yourself and for your dependents. The monthly cost for your dependents is inclusive of all of your eligible dependents (spouse, children under age 19, students age 19 to 25, and incapacitated children age 19 and over).

The monthly cost for each of the new plans effective June 1, 2008 is:

- Plan A - \$250

- Plan B - \$325
- Plan C - \$400

Current Enrollees in GA-23111 Plans B or C Need to Take Action

Current Plans B and C will be replaced by these new options. If you are currently enrolled in Plans B or C, you need to select a new plan or the following will occur, effective June 1, 2008:

- Current Plan B enrollees will automatically default to the new Plan A
- Current Plan C enrollees will automatically default to the new Plan C

Note: Any current enrollees in Plan B or C who do not wish to continue their participation in one of the new plans can contact the Customer Care Center at 800-842-5252 to cancel their enrollment, or simply not pay the required

See GA 23-111, Page 6

Hours of Service

Continued from Page 1

ing work/rest habits of railroad employees.

"At the FRA, we believe effective safety programs must be based on facts," Cothen added. "By cataloging the work/rest histories of train and engine service employees across the nation, the BLET and the UTU are helping to provide that critical data. No doubt this study will allow us a greater understanding of the impact fatigue has among operating crews and help point the way for future fatigue reduction strategies."

The independent study, sponsored by FRA and conducted by Foster-Miller, Inc. of Waltham, MA, will ask about 800 union members country-wide, who will be randomly selected from both unions' databases, to fill out work/sleep diaries for two weeks. Partici-

pants will receive a small diary in the mail where they will record their work and sleep times and note how well they slept and how alert they feel each day. They will also be asked to fill out a companion background survey. Those who complete and submit their diaries and questionnaires to Foster-Miller will receive a \$75 gift certificate as thanks for participating in the survey.

Mailing of the surveys to the members selected to participate will begin shortly after the change from standard time to daylight savings time on March 9th. Results from the completed study will be reported to the BLET, the UTU, and the FRA only as a whole, not individually. Foster-Miller will delete the names of all participants once the data has been compiled and participants have received their gift certificates.

The diary asks participants to record when they

slept. It also asks participants to rate how easy it was to fall asleep, how easy it was to get up, and how well they slept. It also asks participants to include any naps they take.

It also asks participants to record how they are feeling during the work day. How do you feel when you report for work? Do you feel sleepy when you finish your work? How long did you work? Was there any limbo time or period of interim release in addition to regular work?

The overall purpose of the study is to develop a better understanding of work/rest schedules and sleep patterns of train and engine service employees and to look at the relationship between these schedules and how alert or sleepy people are feeling.

Results of the survey will be published next year in the *Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen News*. •

Locomotive Engineers & Conductors Mutual Protective Association

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BLET NEWS

In Memoriam

BLET Director of Research Dennis C. Simmerman 1949-2008

Dennis C. Simmerman, BLET's Director of Research and Assistant to the President, passed away on March 7 after a battle with cancer.

He is survived by his wife, Bobbie; sons Andrew and Brett (Carissa); a grandson, Blake Charles; and many more family members and friends.

"As Director of Research, Brother Simmerman played a major role in each and every round of national contract negotiations since 1983," said BLET National President Don Hahs. "He was an honest, humble and modest man, and his impact on the Brotherhood cannot be overstated.

"His knowledge of the Brotherhood and its complex collective bargaining agreements was unmatched. His work over the last 25 years has had a positive impact on each and every member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, whether they knew Dennis or not," President Hahs said. "Those who knew him cannot find words to express our profound sense of loss and sadness. He was a devoted husband, father and family man. He was a proud locomotive engineer and a proud Brotherhood employee.

"My heart goes out to his widow Bobbie, and on behalf of the entire organization, I extend deepest sympathies to the entire Simmerman family," President Hahs said.

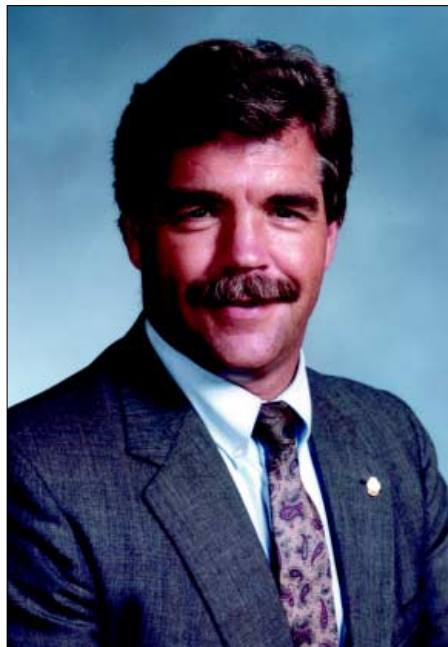
Brother Simmerman, 58, began his railroad career in 1972 when he began working as a fireman in Superior, Wis., employed by the Soo Line Railroad. He quickly earned promotion to locomotive engineer in 1974.

His interest in working for the welfare of fellow railroad workers began in 1975 when he joined the Brotherhood as a member of Division 808 in Superior, Wis. He immediately became an active member and was soon elected to local chairman. In 1977, he was elected General Chairman of the Soo Line General Committee of Adjustment, where he served until he was appointed in 1981 to the BLET's National Office, as assistant to the Director of Research.

He served the Brotherhood as Director of Research since Jan. 1, 1983, and was appointed to that post by then-BLE President John F. Sytsma. While continuing to serve as Director of Research, Brother Simmerman won election to the office of Alternate General Secretary-Treasurer in 1991 and in 1996. In 1986, he was elected to the position of Fourth Alternate Vice President, eventually moving up the ranks to First Alternate Vice President.

In his work as Director of Research, Brother Simmerman was a member of all BLET National Wage/Rule Committees since 1983 and played a vital role in formulating contract issues and negotiating strategies. He also served on the Labor Research Advisory Committee for the U.S. Department of Labor.

Prior to his railroad career, Brother Simmerman served in the U.S. Army



from August 1970 to February 1972, during which time he was a personal aide to Major General Kenneth Bayer at Colorado Springs, Colo.

He graduated from the University of Wisconsin at Superior in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science degree with majors in pre-law and history.

Brother Simmerman was born December 16, 1949 in Milwaukee, Wis. He was a volunteer at a suburban Cleveland hospital where his wife Bobbie is the Director of Community Outreach. He had served as president of his church council and enjoyed sailing, golf, tennis, skiing and coaching.

During his battle with cancer, Brother Simmerman expressed many times how fortunate he felt to have the health care benefits that enabled him to receive the treatments he needed. It was his wish that an Indigent Care Fund be set up through Southwest General Hospital, where he received care. The fund has the potential to give end-of-life care to those who do not have the ability to pay for it. Donations in the name of Dennis Simmerman can be made to the Southwest Hospice Indigent Care Fund, 18659 Drake Rd., Strongsville 44136.

Cards and other expressions of sympathy may be sent to the Simmerman family at: 20220 Colleen Court, Strongsville, OH 44149. •

MARCH 2008 CALENDAR & EVENTS

APRIL 18... U.S. Railroad Retirement Board Informational Conferences, Minn. & Mich.
The U.S. Railroad Retirement Board will hold two free seminars on April 11; one in Eagan, Minn., and one in Romulus, Mich. Registration for both begins at 8 a.m. Program begins promptly at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 12:30 p.m. The Eagan conference is at the Best Western Dakota Ridge, 3450 Washington Dr., I-35 E & Yankee Doodle Road. The Romulus conference is at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 8000 Merriman Road. Per Railroad Retirement Board request, elected BLET officials only, please!

APRIL 24... U.S. Railroad Retirement Board Informational Conference, New York
At the Coral House, 70 Milburn Ave. Begins at 8:30 a.m. and concludes at 12:30 p.m.

JUNE 15-19... 81st Annual Southeastern Meeting Association, Montgomery, Ala.
Chairman Jason Popwell of BLET Division 495 will host the 81st annual SMA at the Embassy Suites in Montgomery, Ala. See Page 6 this issue for registration form and convention details.

JULY 6-10... 70th Annual Eastern Union Meeting Association, Huron, Ohio
Arrangements Chairman Rodney Cutlip is planning the 2008 EUMA at Sawmill Creek Resort, which is a 45-minute drive east of BLET National Division headquarters in Cleveland, Ohio. Be sure to visit www.EUMA2008.com for information. Also, see Page 5 this issue for registration form.

AUGUST 17-20... 68th International Western Convention, San Luis Obispo, Calif.
Chairman Mike Galvani hosts the 2008 IWC at the Embassy Suites Hotel-San Luis Obispo. Details to come soon!

SEPTEMBER 14-18... 73rd Southwestern Convention Meeting, St. Louis, Mo.
Chairman David Grimes and the members of Division 42 host the 2008 SWCM at the St. Louis Hilton at the Ballpark (One South Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.). More details to come!

Advisory Board January Activity

In accordance with the BLET Bylaws, summaries of BLET Advisory Board members' activities are published monthly:

- National President Don M. Hahs**—National Division office: General supervision of BLET activities; General office duties; National Symposium on Peer Prevention Program-CSX, Jacksonville, Fla.
- First Vice-President & Alternate President Edward W. Rodziewicz**—Assisted President in general operation of National Division Office; Various correspondence & phone calls; U.S.-Mexico cross border committee; Vacation & holidays.
- National Secretary-Treasurer William C. Walpert**—General supervision of BLET financial, record depts.; ND office; BLET Education & Training Dept.; Internal Organizing, Mobilizing & Strategic Planning Dept.; Safety Task Force; Meetings with vendors and financial institutions; Standard Building operations oversight; Rail Conference policy mtg.; Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; LM-2 Filers Secretary-Treasurer workshop, University of Wisconsin, Champaign, Ill.
- Vice-President Paul T. Sorrow**—Assigned to CSX, NS and GTW general committees of adjustment; Assist CSX-Northern Lines at mtg. w/ Division 937 and CSXT-Chicago Division officers; Assist Eastern Lines with various issues, including mtg. w/ Labor Relations; Assisted Western Lines with various issues, including but not limited to dispute resolution; Assisted Grand Trunk GCA with issues as called upon by General Chairman; Work on PLB cases, correspondence, telephone calls; Vacation & holidays.
- Vice-President Richard K. Radek**—ND Office; BLET Decertification Helpline services; Director of Arbitration Dept; National Railroad Adjustment Board (NRAB); Illinois Central; Wisconsin Central; Indiana Harbor Belt; METRA; Bell Rwy. of Chicago; Chicago Central & Pacific; Iowa, Chicago & Eastern; Tentative C.B.A. and agreed to Q&A's, CN/WC, Schiller Park, Ill.; Various NRAB arbitration, Chicago; Chicago Federation of Labor, re: State funding of transit, Metra, Chicago; DLC issues, grievances, mtgs. re: Progressing to arbitration, IHB, Chicago/Hammond, Ind.; Routine office duties, Cleveland; SBA 1157 arbitration, Union RR; Tentative agreement, CN/WC, Green Bay, Wis.; Assistance, re: Under-employment and seniority issues, CN/WC, Green Bay; NRAB pre-hearing case screenings, Chicago; Teleconference, NMB-Hoglander, re: Experimental expedited arbitration project; Tour of classroom facilities for Local/General Chairmen training, Madison, Wis.
- Vice-President Dale McPherson**—CP Rail; Port. Term. RR; Longview Portland & Northern; Longview Switching Co.; Indiana RR; W&LE RR; Utah Railroad; UP Eastern Dist.; UP former CNW; DM&IR RR; Portland & Western RR; Great Western RR; Appalachian & Ohio RR; Public Law Boards 5604, 5681, 5721, 6040, 6281, 6449, 6558, 6589; SBA 585; UP work/rest projects; RSAC positive train control cmt.; National wage/rules; General office duties, correspondence, phone; Mtgs. w/ UP management and UP General Chairmen, Los Angeles and Tucson, Ariz.; Mtgs. w/ UP General Chairmen, re: Scope rule; Mtgs. w/ UP General Chairmen, Edelstein Section 4 notice.
- Vice-President Merle W. Geiger Jr.**—Assigned to: BLET Trainmen's Department; Kansas City Southern; Gateway Western; Midsouth Rail; Southrail; Texas-Mexican Rwy.; Springfield Terminal, Delaware & Hudson; Indiana & Ohio RR; Louisville & Indiana RR; St. Lawrence & Atlantic RR; Indiana Southern RR; Montreal, Maine and Atlantic RR; Contract mtgs. w/ GC Twombly and MMA, Bangor, Maine; Contract mtgs. w/ GC Pabst and I&O, Cincinnati, Ohio; Mtgs. w/ GC Parker and KCS, Kansas City, Mo.; Mtgs. w/ GC Parker and Division 527, Kansas City and Pittsburg, Kan.; Holiday; Research, correspondence and general office duties.
- Vice-President Stephen D. Speagle**—Assigned to Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Montana Rail Link, Pacific Harbor Line, Missouri & Northern Arkansas (M&NA), National Wage/Rule Committee; Wabash Hospital mtg.; Division 75 Christmas dinner, Kansas City; Wabash luncheon, mtg., Decatur; ETMS train ride, Fort Worth, Texas; Travel; Vacation & holidays.
- Vice-President E.L. "Lee" Pruitt**—Assisted general chairmen & members of: UP-Western Lines; UP-Western Region; UP-Central Region; UP-Southern Region; UP-Tacoma Belt; Assisting GC Rightnowar, NY Dock negotiations, UPCR; Assisting GC Gore, ebb & flow negotiations, UPSR; Assisting GC Hannah, marking rest dispute, UPWL; Assisting GC Hannah & LC Loudermilk, Division 126 meeting, UPWL; Office work, paper work, filing and calls; Vacation & holidays.
- Vice-President & National Legislative Representative John P. Tolman**—Assigned to BLET Washington, D.C. office; BLET Security Officer; General office duties, telephone, correspondence; Coordinate content of NLO website; Continued coordination w/ IBT Government Affairs Dept.; Coordinated PAC contributions; Teamsters' state lobbyist conference call; Mtg. w/ NS Divisions, Toledo, Ohio; Interviews for Office Administrator position; Mtgs. w/ various members of congress, including Rahm Emanuel (D-IL), Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL), Jean Schmidt (R-OH), Candice Miller (R-MI), Wayne Gilchrest (R-MD), Howard Coble (R-NC), Robin Hayes (R-NC), Charles Dent (R-PA), Tim Johnson (R-IL) and Jim Gerlach (R-PA); Mtg. w/ Senate Commerce Committee staff to discuss S. 1889; Various fundraisers.
- Vice-President Marcus J. Ruef**—Assigned to Amtrak Long Island Railroad; Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority; New Jersey Transit; Port Authority Trans Hudson; Norfolk Southern (Northern Lines/W&LE); Norfolk Southern (Eastern Lines); Norfolk Southern (Southern Lines); Union Railroad (URR); Allegheny Ludlum Steel Co.; and Birmingham Southern; Draft discipline letter for Div. 79, NS-E; Prep for PLB 1157, URR; Assist GC Martin, re: Seniority, NYS&W; Prep. and hearing for SBA 1063, NS-N, Norfolk, Va.; Draft submissions for SBA 1063, NS-N; Prepare dissent to PLB 7068, NS-S; Prep. SBA 1157, URR; Research, paperwork, correspondence, phone calls; Research deadheading issue, minor discipline cases, resolve referee travel problem with NMB.



LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS AND TRAINMEN NEWS Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen A Division of the Rail Conference, International Brotherhood of Teamsters

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