



DAILY NEWS UPDATES  
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# Locomotive

## ENGINEERS & TRAINMEN NEWS



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# BLET, RLBC seek NMB release

## Bargaining coalition declares impasse

**T**he Rail Labor Bargaining Coalition (RLBC) has asked to be released from federal mediation. The unions also categorically rejected rail management's assertion that the tentative agreement between National Carriers Conference Committee/United Transportation Union (NCCC/UTU) sets a pattern for the rest of Rail Labor.

The RLBC is comprised of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Train-

men (both divisions of the Teamster Rail Conference), the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, the National Conference of Firemen and Oilers (SEIU), the Sheet Metal Workers International Association, and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers and Blacksmiths.

In a June 13 letter to the National Mediation Board (NMB), RLBC Chairman W. Dan Pickett requested that NMB terminate mediation and proffer arbitration to the parties, pursuant to Section 5 of the Railway Labor Act. Chairman Pickett noted that the Mediation Board's

best efforts have not been successful in bringing about an amicable settlement of this dispute through mediation.

In a June 21 statement regarding the carrier assertion that the NCCC/UTU tentative agreement sets a pattern, the RLBC categorically rejected "the notion our members should accept a smaller wage package than we negotiated in the last bargaining round when the Carriers' profits have more than doubled since then. We are even more troubled by the prospect of concessionary changes in our health plan."

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THE RLBC STATEMENT REJECTING THE NCCC/UTU TENTATIVE AGREEMENT IS ON PAGE 4 OF THIS ISSUE.

## San Luis Obispo hosts 2011 IWC



**Lots to see and do:** A tour of Hearst Castle, a wine-tasting dinner and golf tournament are on tap for the 2011 IWC.

**A**rrangements chairman Mike Galvani and the members of BLET Division 664 are hosting the 71st annual International Western Convention (IWC) in San Luis Obispo, Calif., from August 21-27, 2011.

They also hosted the 2008 IWC, which was very well received by the members.

"Once again BLET Division 664 is proud to have the opportunity to host the International Western Convention in San Luis Obispo, California," Brother Galvani said. "It is our goal to plan a week

of educational classes and fun activities to accommodate everyone."

Those who attend will stay at the Embassy Suites San Luis Obispo hotel, where the BLET has secured a room rate of \$139 per night. Room reservations can be made through the IWC website (iwcslo2011.com), or by calling the hotel direct at (805) 549-0800. Reservations must be made by August 8 to make sure that you have a room.

Brother Galvani has arranged for an extensive array of in-depth educational



opportunities for BLET members, including a new workshop for Division Trustees. The traditional Secretary-Treasurer workshop has been expanded and is now offered as a two-day course. Day 1 will cover membership reporting while Day 2 will focus on government reporting. Additional workshops include: training regarding the BLET's mobilization network; a workshop for Legislative Representatives; and a Local Chairman workshop that will feature a mock investigation.

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## A victory for rail workers

### Supreme Court upholds FELA negligence standard

**R**ail Labor scored a major victory on June 23 as the United States Supreme Court rejected an argument by CSX Transportation that would have made it much more difficult for railroad workers to be compensated when they are injured on the job as a result of a railroad's negligence.

The case — *CSX Transportation, Inc. v. McBride* — was originally brought by BLET Division 742 member Robert McBride, who was injured while working for CSX. The claim was filed pursuant to the Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA) by Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen Designated Legal Counsel John Kujawski. Under the FELA, a railroad worker who is killed or injured on the job may recover damages if the injury or death results in whole or in part from the railroad's negligence.

Dissatisfied with the jury's verdict in McBride's favor, the railroad appealed to the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, complaining that the instructions given to the jury did not include one requiring that it apply a higher "proximate cause" standard, meaning that McBride needed to prove that the railroad's negligence was the main or direct cause of the accident. The Seventh Circuit denied the railroad's appeal.

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### Investment Trustee

Bill Walpert to serve Railroad Retirement Trust Fund **pg 3**

### SMA Photo Album

Highlights of 84th SMA in Asheville, N.C. **pg 5**



### GCA News

Semenek reelected to serve CP Rail-US **pg 6**

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## BLET PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY DENNIS R. PIERCE

# DOING YOUR CIVIC DUTY

Several times over the past year I have written about the importance of every BLET member performing his or her duty toward our Brotherhood. I have cited a number of examples of fulfilling your obligation to the Organization, from attending local division meetings, to participating in the election of officers and contract ratification votes, to becoming involved in mobilization activities such as lobbying to protect BLET wages, working conditions and legal rights. Such activity is critical in this time of unprecedented attacks upon workers by Corporate America and its political supporters.

Today I want to talk about a related duty: your duty as a citizen of your locality, the state in which you reside, and as an American. Because the War on Workers is being waged through governmental bodies — including federal and state legislatures and the courts — being involved in civic affairs is an integral part of fulfilling your duty as a BLET member.

Participating in elections is the core of your obligation as a citizen, and that participation extends far beyond voting when there is a national election. For example, in the 2011 off-year elections, BLET members in Ohio can help overturn the actions by the Ohio Legislature and Governor John Kasich to deprive public sector workers such as police, firefighters and teachers of their collective bargaining rights when a state referendum on whether to retain S.B. 5 appears on this November's ballot. Similarly, BLET members in Wisconsin will have a say in whether certain State Senators who voted for similar anti-worker legislation will keep their jobs in a series of upcoming recall elections.

Nineteenth Century labor leader Big Bill Haywood was



**Their civic duty:** President Pierce joins Brother D.B. Sattig, Legislative Rep of BLET Division 457 (Toledo, Ohio), his wife Amanda, and their two children in the most basic of civil duties — protesting — at a Stop the War on Workers rally in Columbus, Ohio.

known for the motto that “an injury to one is an injury to all.” This slogan has served as a core value for the American labor movement for over 125 years. In the present, it means that the BLET is weakened whenever another sector of the labor movement, such as public sector workers in Wisconsin and Ohio, is weakened. And BLET members must rise in defense of our brother and sister workers whenever and wherever they come under attack from the union of capital — Corporate America.

Next year's national elections will be even more critical for the BLET's future, and for the economic security of your family. For more than 30 years — and long before Wall Street's casino capitalism put the U.S. economy in the tank — there has been a steadily increasing transfer of wealth from the workers who produce that wealth to the corporations. Wages have stagnated for decades, and things have gotten so out of hand that between the second quarter of 2009 and the fourth quarter of last year fully 88% of the growth in national income went to corporate

profits, while only 1% went to aggregate wages and salaries.

The Supreme Court decision in 2010 to permit unlimited corporate donations to influence elections is proving to be a tipping point in the War on Workers. Multi-million dollar corporate sponsored political propaganda campaigns helped elect anti-worker legislators and judges in record numbers, setting the stage for attacks on public workers in many states.

The BLET and its members have not been immune from that attack. Many of our members who work for Amtrak and various commuter railroads are feeling the squeeze that reduced operating subsidies produces. Our rights under the Railway Labor Act to majority-decided representation elections, union shop agreements and payroll deduction of dues also are under attack.

And as this is being written there is a titanic struggle underway in Washington over how to address the nation's budget deficit and long-term debt. The anti-worker forces want to permanently undermine Social Security and Medicare as the

price for their support of a debt reduction plan. These agents of Corporate America have as their goal the unraveling of the social compact that has served as the economic foundation of the United States since the Great Depression and as the cornerstone of the American middle class.

Make no mistake: if they succeed every BLET member will be harmed. Every railroad worker who has reached retirement age is entitled to Medicare, and Railroad Retirement Tier 1 benefits are patterned after Social Security benefits. Therefore, the outcome of the debate in Washington could harm all BLET members and their families.

Defeating this attack against our basic rights and entitlements will require fighting on a number of fronts. Past messages from me outlined various ways you can participate in the BLET's fight-back. There are several other ways — all related to your civic duty — that you can help in fighting against the War on Workers.

You can commit yourself to greater participation in the election process in several ways. Stay

abreast of the important issues by conducting your own research and drawing your own conclusions, instead of accepting an 8-second sound bite from some politician or pundit as the gospel. Resolve to participate in every election you are entitled to vote in, and not just the “big” ones. Absentee voting options are so widespread today that “I’ve been working on the railroad” no longer is a valid reason not to vote.

Make sure people who want to put your kids in the crossfire between teachers and politicians aren't elected to school boards. Help defeat those who would deprive the police and firefighters who protect your community of their right to bargain workplace safety issues. Elect those who support the agenda of American workers and the middle class.

And get involved locally in your election process; I've done that and it can make a difference. The last several national elections experienced significant problems in many areas — particularly in college towns and larger cities — that were related to insufficient ballots, too few poll workers and technological glitches. Almost without exception, those problems occurred in areas where opposition to Corporate America's agenda is the strongest.

As corporate money continues to distort the debate over our nation's future and our families' future, it is more important than ever before that we get out the word, get out the vote, and make sure that fair elections result in legislators and judges who support the agenda of those who do the work and generate the profits. Doing your civic duty also makes the BLET a stronger Union.

Fraternally,

**DENNIS R. PIERCE**  
BLET NATIONAL PRESIDENT

“The Supreme Court decision in 2010 to permit unlimited corporate donations to influence elections is proving to be a tipping point in the War on Workers. Multi-million dollar corporate sponsored political propaganda campaigns helped elect anti-worker legislators and judges in record numbers, setting the stage for attacks on public workers in many states.”

## BLET NATIONAL DIVISION ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

Official communications between BLET members and the National Division require a hard copy of the correspondence, bearing a signature, being received by the National President to be considered an “official communication.” This is to provide that the actual question(s) are addressed, and ensures that when official

interpretations are made they have reference to a specific request and can be used in future correspondence.

The volume of e-mails received makes it impossible for the National President to answer all unofficial communications. Therefore, it is the policy of the BLET that e-mails addressed to the National President will be reviewed and forwarded to

the appropriate officer or staff for a timely response; however, an e-mail message is not considered an official communication.

Moreover, anonymous e-mails and e-mails that do not provide sufficient information concerning the sender to enable National Division staff to confirm the sender's membership status will not receive any reply or acknowledgement. This poli-

cy is intended to allow the National President to be aware of the opinions and suggestions of the membership, while at the same time providing a timely response to the member's unofficial communication, if a response is necessary, without needlessly expending limited BLET resources.

**ADOPTED AT CLEVELAND, OHIO ON JULY 22, 2010. ©©**





## GENERAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY JAMES P. HOFFA

# FIGHTING FOR A VOICE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

**S**omehow it's a threat to free enterprise when working people join together to protect their wages and benefits. In the last few months, politicians from Washington to Wisconsin have tried to limit working Americans' right to band together to protect their interests.

I'm very proud of Teamsters who've been defending that right against the recent onslaught of attacks. Tens of thousands of Teamsters rallied against anti-worker legislation in hundreds of cities and towns over the past few months. BLET members have joined in, too, at rallies in Cleveland, Columbus, Madison, Indianapolis and others. Our union has recently fought against — and defeated — dozens of bills aimed at weakening unions.

Working people today are fighting unprecedented assaults



on their economic well-being. The November election was the first in decades where corporations and Wall Street speculators were allowed to contribute unlimited amounts of secret

money to political campaigns. They took full advantage of it to push their radical anti-worker agenda.

IF CEOs have the right to outsource our jobs, then working

people have the right to band together to stop them. If corporations can form political committees to lobby politicians, then working- and middle-class Americans can band together to make their voices heard.

Working people cannot offset corporate greed and corporate power unless they can form unions. And the need for unions has never been more evident than it is now. America is in danger of becoming a banana republic, a Third World country of haves and have-nots with nothing in between.

An unequal America is a weaker America. Inequality has caused too many booms and busts, too much instability and too little economic growth. More and more Americans feel trapped in low-wage jobs, unable to make their lives better. Forty-four million Americans are on food stamps, and two out of five of

the families that require that assistance have a wage earner. There is something very wrong in a country where millions of hard-working people can't feed their families.

Economic inequality undermines peoples' faith that America remains true to the principles upon which it was founded. We must restore the balance between the corporate billionaires and the working class in order to restore Americans' faith in those principles.

The place to start is to make sure working people can join together and have a voice in the democratic process.

Fraternally,

*James P. Hoffa*

**JAMES P. HOFFA**  
TEAMSTERS GENERAL  
PRESIDENT

# Walpert to serve as Trustee of Railroad Retirement Investment Trust

**B**ill Walpert, National Secretary-Treasurer of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, has been unanimously appointed to serve as a Trustee of the National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust (NRRIT).

All Rail Labor Presidents, representing the 13 labor organizations whose members are covered by the Railroad Retirement system, appointed him unanimously on May 13, 2011.

NST Walpert will begin serving immediately as a shadow trustee, a non-voting member of the Trust. He will become a full Trustee when he assumes the vacancy created by current Trustee Walt Barrows, Secretary-Treasurer of the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen (BRS), who has been nominated by President Obama to serve as the Labor Member of the Railroad Retirement Board.

The NRRIT was established by the Railroad Retirement and Survivor's Improvement Act of 2001, which was signed into law on December 21, 2001.

The purpose of the Trust is to manage and invest Railroad Retirement Assets. The Trust invests the assets of the Railroad Retirement Account into a diversified investment portfolio in the same manner as those of private sector retirement plans. Prior to the Act, investment of Railroad Retirement Account assets was limited to U.S. government securities.

The Trust oversees investments currently totaling approximately \$25 billion.

BLET National President Dennis Pierce congratulated NST Walpert on his appointment.



**Newest Trustee:** The BLET's Bill Walpert will help oversee investment of approximately \$25 billion by the National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust.

"Only those individuals with experience and expertise in the management of financial investment and pension plans are eligible to hold Trustee positions, and Brother Walpert certainly fits the bill," President Pierce said. "He has served

our Brotherhood faithfully as chief financial officer for nearly a decade now, and I congratulate him on this prestigious appointment."

NST Walpert was first elected to the organization's top financial office in 2001,

and was reelected by acclamation in 2006. He was elected a third time in 2010 by a wide majority of members in the first rank-and-file vote of BLET members in the 148-year history of the Organization. Brother Walpert was first elected to the BLET's Advisory Board as a National Vice President in 1996. He joined the BLET on November 1, 1973, and is a member of Division 604 in Sherman, Texas.

As National Secretary-Treasurer of the BLET, he has custody of all funds of the National Division and has supervision over the financial and record department personnel of the National Division. He is under direction of the Executive Committee in regard to matters pertaining to his duties.

The Board is comprised of seven Trustees, three selected by railroad labor unions and three by railroad companies. The seventh Trustee is an independent Trustee selected by the other six Trustees. ©©

**MORE INFORMATION ON THE TRUST IS AVAILABLE ON THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD WEBSITE:**  
[WWW.RRB.GOV/MEP/NRRIT.ASP](http://WWW.RRB.GOV/MEP/NRRIT.ASP)

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enter your email address to begin receiving the most current news from the BLET National Division.

It is a great way to keep informed on the most recent issues impacting your job, your contract and your Brotherhood.



## NATIONAL CONTRACT UPDATE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Additionally, the RLBC pointed out that proposed changes to the UTU's separate health insurance plan that have tentatively been agreed to cannot be incorporated into the Railroad Employees' National Health and Wel-

fare Plan, which covers RLBC-represented and other railroad workers. Moreover, the industry's position that significant economic elements of the tentative UTU agreement are inapplicable to RLBC-represented workers means that "the parties' differences are irreconcilable and further mediation is unwarranted."

On June 15, the NMB wrote the National Carriers' Conference Committee — the industry's bargaining arm — requesting the carriers' comments in response to this request. Relevant updated information will be provided when it becomes available.

The Teamsters Rail Conference represents more than 70,000 men and wom-

en working in the railroad industry as locomotive engineers, conductors, trainmen and maintenance of way employees. ©

**THE RLBC LETTER  
TO THE NMB IS AT:**

WWW.BLE-T.ORG/PR/PDF/  
RLBC\_NMB\_6-13-11.PDF

# RLBC rejects notion that NCCC/UTU tentative agreement sets a pattern for the freight rail industry

**T**he Rail Labor Bargaining Coalition ("RLBC") was created by six rail labor organizations: Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, IBT; Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division, IBT; Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, AFL-CIO; International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, AFL-CIO; National Conference of Firemen & Oilers, SEIU; and the Sheet Metal Workers International Association, AFL-CIO. The RLBC's mission is to bargain on behalf of its member organizations with the National Carrier's Conference Committee, which represents the Class I rail carriers in negotiations for a modified national labor agreement. In the last bargaining round, true multi-union, multi-employer bargaining

was very successful. The RLBC's agreement with the Carriers led to industry-wide voluntary agreements between all organizations with the NCCC. The wage and health benefit provisions of those agreements were both highly favorable for employees and realistic for the Carriers in light of the industry's financial and operating successes which continue today.

Recent developments in the current bargaining round, unfortunately, have demonstrated that a voluntary agreement with the NCCC cannot occur. Last week, therefore, the RLBC requested the National Mediation Board to end mediation and allow our dispute with the NCCC to enter the final dispute-resolution process under the Railway Labor Act. An end to mediation was

earlier requested by five other rail labor organizations — the Transportation Communications Union (TCU), American Train Dispatchers Association (ATDA), International Association of Machinists (IAM), International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the Transport Workers Union — which bargain together as an informal coalition.

What has unified nearly all of rail labor is the Carriers' assertion that the NCCC's June 2 tentative agreement with the United Transportation Union (UTU) sets the pattern for an industry-wide agreement. Along with the rest of rail labor, other than the UTU, the RLBC rejects categorically the notion our members should accept a smaller wage package than we negotiated in the last bargaining round when the Carriers' profits have more than doubled since then. We are even more troubled by the prospect of concessionary changes in our health plan.

The facts underlying our disagreement with the wage and health benefit provisions of the NCCC/UTU tentative agreement are straight-forward. The current National Agreement negotiated during the last round provided for wage increases totaling 17 percent (18.2% compounded) over five years. From 2000 to 2004, the period leading up to the negotiations that resulted in the 2007-09 National Agreements, railroad profits were \$15.9 billion in 2009 constant dollars. In a comparable period preceding the current negotiations, 2005-2009, railroad profits were \$32.7 billion in 2009 constant dollars. The profits of the four largest freight railroads, NS, CSX, BNSF and UP soared to \$8.5 billion in 2010. Despite record profitability, the NCCC/UTU tentative agreement provides for wage increases totaling 14 percent over five years. Another 3 percent will be added during what effectively becomes, in wage terms, the sixth year of the agreement. This tentative wage settlement is far short of what the RLBC achieved last time.

The most objectionable changes in the NCCC/UTU tentative agreement are to the health care provisions of the UTU Health and Welfare Plan. Those changes shift insurance costs to the most vulnerable employees, those who are sick or have sick family members and actually have to use their insurance. While the current managed care plan pays 100 percent of hospital and medical costs, the UTU tentative agreement will require employees to pay deductibles and 5% co-insurance. In the drug plan, members will get zero reimbursement for drugs not authorized by Medco (the insur-

ance company) and could pay up to \$90.00 for a three month supply of non-generic drugs. If the NCCC/UTU tentative agreement is applied to all crafts, it is estimated that health care savings to the railroads will exceed a half billion dollars over five years. Almost all of the savings will come from increased costs to employees who need to access health care for themselves or their sick family members. The prosperity of our industry and fairness to our most vulnerable members require rejection of this thoroughly bad idea.

The freight railroads say the NCCC/UTU tentative agreement constitutes a "pattern." We say a union that represents only 25 percent of the workforce and has its own healthcare plan cannot and does not set a pattern for any other union. The RLBC and the TCU-led Coalition will continue to fight for a fair contract, one that gains for members a fair share of the immense profits the railroads continue to reap and one that protects those who fall ill or are injured from the economic burdens of their health conditions. If we do not stand together on this point, we can look forward to additional burdens being put on those of us who are least able to shoulder them, while the railroads continue to obtain record profits. Brothers and Sisters, the RLBC will resist that result with all of its collective might and with the assistance of every union in the coalition led by the TCU. United, we cannot be defeated.

### Dennis R. Pierce

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE  
ENGINEERS & TRAINMEN, A DIVISION  
OF THE RAIL CONFERENCE, IBT

### Freddie N. Simpson

BROTHERHOOD OF MAINTENANCE  
OF WAY EMPLOYEES, A DIVISION  
OF THE RAIL CONFERENCE, IBT

### W. Dan Pickett

BROTHERHOOD OF  
RAILROAD SIGNALMEN

### Dan L. Hamilton

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
OF BOILERMAKERS, BLACKSMITHS,  
IRON SHIP BUILDERS, FORGERS  
AND HELPERS

### John W. Thacker

NATIONAL CONFERENCE  
OF FIREMEN AND OILERS,  
DISTRICT OF LOCAL 32BJ, SEIU

### Dewey B. Garland

SHEET METAL WORKERS  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

## BLET STATEMENT ON CANCELLATION OF METRA TRAINS

**D**ennis R. Pierce, National President of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET) issued the following statement on June 13 in connection with the cancellation of several Metra trains that operate over the UP West Line:

"Contrary to the claims of Metra and the Union Pacific Railroad, this morning's disruptions were in no way caused by the locomotive engineers represented by the BLET. There is an ongoing general crew shortage on the UP because of Midwest flooding, which has resulted in UP trains and crews in the Rochelle area being detoured over BNSF lines.

"This past weekend, there was a signal cutover on UP's Geneva Subdivision on Saturday and Sunday in connection with a new control point being placed into service just west of Elmhurst. Four of the five extra board engineers who protect the Metra commuter service were required to work on Sunday in connection with this project. Of these, only one had the federally-required off duty time to work this morning.

"It should be noted that, until late this morning, only five engineers were

assigned to this extra board, despite consistent complaints by the local BLET representative that ten engineers were required in order to adequately protect the service. Three additional engineers were added to the extra board within the past couple of hours.

"Regarding UP's claim that this service disruption was the fault of engineers on vacation and being ill, the following should be noted. A total of six engineers are on vacation today. Those engineers on vacation for this entire week were assigned that vacation last year. Engineers on a single-day vacation today were granted permission to be off by the railroad, which makes the sole determination how many single-day vacations may be taken. And our local representative has informed us that one engineer working in the UP West Line Metra commuter service marked off sick today.

"It is unfortunate that UP and Metra have chosen to attempt to shift the blame for their own poor workforce management to the shoulders of the men and women dedicated to transporting Chicago commuters safely, consistently and on time." ©

"It is unfortunate that UP and Metra have chosen to attempt to shift the blame for their own poor workforce management to the shoulders of the men and women dedicated to transporting Chicago commuters safely, consistently and on time."

— DENNIS R. PIERCE, BLET NATIONAL PRESIDENT





# 2011 SMA PHOTO ALBUM

The 84th annual convention of the BLET's Southeastern Meeting Association (SMA) was held in Asheville, N.C., during the week of June 14.

The week-long meeting kicked off with the opening ceremonies and the historic presentation of state flags by members of the BLET Auxiliary, a tradition that dates back nearly 100 years. BLET National President Dennis Pierce delivered the keynote address.

Members took advantage of numerous educational opportunities throughout the week and enjoyed time with family while renewing acquaintances with friends.

Division 267 Local Chairman Dewey R. Brown hosted the 84th SMA, along with his wife Christie and the members of BLET Division 267 (Asheville, N.C.).

The 85th annual SMA will begin July 1, 2012, at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla. ©©



## BLET TRAVELS TO WALT DISNEY WORLD FOR 2012 SMA

Earl D. Karper Sr. (Division 35) and Michael L. Tanner (Division 769) are co-hosting the 85th annual Southeastern Meeting Association (SMA) at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla., beginning July 1, 2012.

Discounts are rare at Disney properties unless you are part of a group, and Brothers Karper and Tanner have secured substantial savings for BLET members who attend the 2012 SMA.

"Don't miss the opportunity to join us at Walt Disney World at such an affordable rate," they said. "Our committee is hard at work putting together an excit-

ing, relaxing and fun family event for next year."

The 2012 SMA is planning to offer exclusive opportunities, such as a tour of the Walt Disney Railroad steam trains at the Magic Kingdom and discounted admission tickets to all Disney parks (four theme parks and three water parks).

"And, as always, there are many other exciting possibilities that you and your family can partake of not only at Walt Disney World, but the greater Orlando area as well," they said.

For more details, please visit the SMA website: [www.SMA2012.com](http://www.SMA2012.com).

## American Income Life increases free benefits to BLET members

The BLET National Division provides all active and retired members a group accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) benefit through the American Income Life Insurance Company (AIL). All members are hereby advised that AIL has increased the accidental death and dismemberment benefit at no cost to you or the BLET.

American Income Life is a 100 percent union insurance company that gives members access to a program that will provide several benefits that are at no cost to the union or to the individual members.

The AD&D benefit was recently increased to \$4,000 for every active and retired member. In late May, the National Division mailed a letter to all members to inform them of the increased AD&D benefit. Members who return the yellow post card that is enclosed with each letter will receive a certificate of coverage and will be contacted by AIL to designate a beneficiary. Instead of returning the yellow card, members can opt to re-

spond online at [www.aillife.com/benefits/SGJ5R](http://www.aillife.com/benefits/SGJ5R).

Those who return the card will also receive a family health services discount card, which provides household discounts of 20% to 60% on prescriptions, vision care and related products, hearing care, chiropractic care and optional dental care.

American Income Life will contact BLET members who submit the yellow cards. Their representatives (union members of OPEIU Local 277) will call on BLET members to deliver the certificate of coverage and can witness your beneficiary designation.

If the member does not have an interest and does not want to fill out a card, no one will contact them. Regardless, all BLET members are covered under the "no cost" accidental death and dismemberment insurance policy, which is issued as a free benefit to BLET members.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the benefits, please contact American Income Life at 1-800-495-1213. ©©

## Transportation Workers protecting each other since 1910



4000 Town Center, Suite 1250, Southfield, MI 48075-1407  
phone: 800.514.0010 | fax: 877.633.1910  
email: [lecempa1910@lecempa.org](mailto:lecempa1910@lecempa.org) | web: [www.lecempa.org](http://www.lecempa.org)



## In the Line of Duty

# JAMES G. HADDEN

### BROTHER JAMES GREGORY HADDEN

was one of two crew members killed in the line of duty in Mineral Springs, N.C., on May 24, 2011.

Brother Hadden, just 35 years old, was a 10-year veteran with CSX. He was a member of BLET Division 498 in Abbeville, S.C. He joined the Brotherhood on March 1, 2003.

Also killed was conductor Phillip Crawford, 33, a five year employee with CSX.

"I extend deepest sympathies to the family, friends and coworkers left behind by Brother Hadden and Phillip Crawford," BLET National President Dennis Pierce said. "This is a particularly tragic accident because these two men were so young."

The BLET's Safety Task Force was deployed to the scene to assist the National Transportation Safety Board and Federal Railroad Administration with the

accident investigation.

The accident happened at approximately 3:38 a.m. on May 24. According to preliminary reports, both locomotives were traveling northbound when Brother Hadden's train rear-ended the second train, which was stationary or moving very slowly. Several cars derailed and a large fire ensued. The crew of the stationary train sustained injuries.

Prior to his work with CSX, Brother Hadden served in the United States Navy.

He is survived by: parents James and Doris Brown Hadden of Abbeville, S.C.; two sons, Gregory Tre'Shon Hadden of Abbeville, S.C., and Donte' Gregory Hadden of Virginia Beach, Va.; sister Stephanie Lynn Farley of Columbia, S.C.; nephew, Andre' Farley II of Columbia, S.C.; and maternal grandmother, Isabell B. Owens of Abbeville, S.C. ☹☹

## Obituaries

# FORMER BLET GENERAL CHAIRMAN JOHN MULLEN, 1954-2011

**FORMER BLET GENERAL CHAIRMAN AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE JOHN D. MULLEN** passed away on May 18 following complications arising from a heart transplant.

Brother Mullen, 57, served the Brotherhood as General Chairman of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (former ATSF) General Committee of Adjustment for several years. He also served the National Division as a Special Representative and Director of Short Lines from 2003-2008.

Brother Mullen was in the intensive care unit at Baylor Hospital awaiting a heart transplant for about a month before finding a donor. He eventually found a match and underwent surgery on May 2, but succumbed to complica-

tions from the procedure on May 18.

"Today is a sad day for the BLET because of the passing of John Mullen," BLET National President Dennis Pierce said. "Brother Mullen devoted decades of his life in pursuit of our Brotherhood's goals, and we are a better Organization today for his efforts."

"On behalf of the Advisory Board and the 55,000 member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, I extend deepest sympathies to Brother Mullen's friends and family."

He is survived by his wife, Mary Mullen; daughters, Lacey Dee Mullen, and Lindsey Dee Sullivan, and husband, Mark; grandsons, Carsen John Sullivan, and Weston Dean Sullivan; and a host of loving extended family and friends. ☹☹

### AS OF AUGUST 31, 2010

1 — J. M. Lamon  
103 — M. A. Jenkins  
116 — L. Puckett  
123 — R. L. Hawkins  
134 — D. L. Black  
182 — J. L. Gordon  
182 — M. K. Hedgecock  
195 — J. H. Purkett  
196 — R. Y. Statham  
199 — F. R. Padgett  
223 — G. P. Finley  
504 — G. D. Thompson

### AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

3 — K. J. Holl  
13 — T. W. Brieske  
45 — M. A. Crawford  
60 — D. A. Langevin  
87 — J. R. Rice  
269 — W. E. Knot  
269 — J. T. Pettit  
425 — P. R. Livingston  
498 — H. S. Hagen III  
517 — E. B. Johnson  
794 — A. J. McIntosh  
910 — D. J. Johnson Sr.

### AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2010

5 — T. C. Curtis  
13 — R. M. Hanson

32 — L. McGachey  
42 — L. N. Wilson  
87 — L. H. Baisden  
157 — S. W. Bremer  
180 — J. P. Mischel  
205 — R. L. Hall  
294 — R. S. Pulford  
325 — C. T. Woodruff  
357 — S. R. Smith  
364 — W. H. Thompson  
387 — E. E. Schlitz  
393 — G. R. Christisen  
457 — C. J. Byington  
483 — R. E. Wiggins  
527 — L. L. Engle  
621 — W. H. Highfield  
660 — D. J. Bristow  
871 — E. N. Jenkins

### AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2010

23 — E. T. Cline  
28 — J. W. Turnbeaugh  
31 — C. G. Hughes  
46 — D. L. O'Donnell  
56 — J. D. Shope  
122 — P. R. Willard  
228 — R. L. McGhee  
365 — C. D. Miracle  
435 — A. R. Campbell Sr.  
494 — R. H. Gray  
722 — W. H. Paugh

940 — K. L. Hayes

### AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2010

107 — A. W. Edlin  
107 — R. B. Wacker  
125 — G. D. Bartels  
153 — S. E. Wernz  
190 — D. E. Bell  
239 — G. T. Wilkerson  
269 — G. K. Ward  
304 — W. E. Winowiecki  
348 — D. S. Thompson  
457 — H. R. Lohr  
518 — C. E. White  
932 — J. W. Taylor Jr.

### AS OF JANUARY 31, 2011

11 — B. J. Poulson  
13 — L. V. Michaelson  
172 — W. L. Burton  
172 — D. M. Cooper  
172 — C. M. Rhodes  
178 — K. W. Horst  
202 — J. D. Bohnenblust  
421 — D. A. Schiedo  
462 — J. D. Helsel  
542 — R. D. Demorest  
548 — G. E. Scott  
565 — R. R. Round  
706 — J. R. Barronton  
827 — B. L. Boggs

# Semenek reelected General Chairman CP Rail System-U.S.



June 20, 2011: Officers, delegates and guests at the CP Rail System-U.S. GCA meeting in Las Vegas.

Peter M. Semenek was reelected General Chairman of the CP Rail System-U.S. General Committee of Adjustment at the quadrennial meeting held in Las Vegas on June 20.

Brother Semenek is a member of BLET Division 790 (Chicago) and he joined the Brotherhood on March 10, 1995. This will be his first full term of office. He was elevated to the General Chairman's position following former General Chairman Mike Priester's election to the office of National Vice President.

The 17 delegates in session also elected the following officers to four year terms: Chuck Vesely (Division 253, Portage, Wisc.), 1st Vice Chairman; Gordon Kepka (Division 357, Minneapolis, Minn.), 2nd Vice Chairman; and Mark Johnson (Division 117, Mason City, Iowa), 3rd Vice Chairman. Craig Thurow (Division 160, Harvey, N.D.) was elected Secretary-Treasurer and Paul Dinauer (Division 882, Milwaukee, Wisc.) was elected Alternate Secretary-Treasurer.

"We have several new Local Chairman that have recently come into office and I am pleased that they could attend and participate in the work of the General Committee during this session as well as benefit from the experience of the older members who were in attendance," Brother Semenek said.

Representing the BLET National Division were: National President Dennis R. Pierce; National Secretary-Treasurer William C. Walpert; Vice President and National Legislative Representative John P. Tolman; Vice President Cole W. Davis, who is assigned to the General Committee; Vice President Michael D. Priester, the immediate past General Chairman of the Committee; and Vice President Stephen J. Bruno. All spoke to the group, with Pres-

ident Pierce giving a detailed update on national wage negotiations and a report on other current issues before the BLET.

"I congratulate Brother Semenek and all officers of the General Committee on their election and thank them for serving our Brotherhood," President Pierce said. "I have every confidence these dedicated Brothers will do an excellent job of representing the membership and meeting the many challenges that lie ahead."

Following the close of the general session, the BLET Education and Training Department conducted a three-day Local Chairman workshop. Instructors were: NST Walpert; Ken Kroeger, Special Representative and Coordinator of the Education and Training Department; and Doug Davidson, BLET Assistant Director of the Arbitration Department. The detailed program included sessions on the Railway Labor Act, writing skills, representative duties in disciplinary hearings, interviewing, and a module on disciplinary hearings and settlement of claims. The attendees also completed a grievance claim exercise and participated in a mock disciplinary investigation.

"I felt the inclusion of the training class in our meeting was of real benefit to our group and will help our Local Chairman better represent the membership in their local areas," Brother Semenek said.

The Committee honored retiring office secretary Debbie Priester for her years of service. "I surely want to thank Debbie for the help she gave me during the transition into the position of General Chairman," Brother Semenek said.

The Committee represents train and engine service employees on the Canadian Pacific-U.S., Metra North, Indiana Southern Railroad and the former Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad. ☹☹

## A VICTORY FOR RAIL WORKERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 ◀▶

Writing for a 5-4 majority, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg held that the jury instruction "proper in FELA cases ... simply tracks the language Congress employed, informing juries that a defendant railroad caused or contributed to a plaintiff employee's injury if the railroad's negligence played any part in bringing about the injury." The Court also noted that the jury instruction "sought by CSX would mislead" a jury in the proper application of the law.

"The Supreme Court has vindicated an

important right for BLET members and all railroad workers," said BLET National President Dennis R. Pierce. "Our congratulations go out to Brother Bob McBride and his family, whose 7-year struggle for justice concluded successfully."

"I also want to congratulate BLET Designated Legal Counsel John Kujawski and the team he assembled to fight for Brother McBride's rights," Pierce added, "and to thank retired BLET General Counsel Harold Ross for coordinating Rail Labor's friend of the court brief, which demonstrated the continuing need for the protections afforded by the FELA." ☹☹



## PLAN AHEAD:

The 2008 IWC was also in San Luis Obispo and reservations went quickly. Members are advised to secure their hotel rooms as soon as possible for the 2011 IWC.



## 2011 IWC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Early registration begins on August 21, and the IWC kicks off with the annual golf tournament on August 22 and concludes with a banquet the evening of August 26. Additional leisure activities will include a wine tasting dinner, a trip to the San Luis Obispo farmers market, and a tour of the world famous Hearst Castle. There is also a fishing trip planned for August 27, and interested parties should contact Brother Galvani for details.

"Please try to make your reservations early as we are expecting a big crowd this year and we would like to accommodate everyone," Brother Galvani said. "We hope to make it a great IWC."

Members can save \$20 by registering for the IWC on or before August 7. To download registration forms, please visit the BLET National Division website: <http://www.ble-t.org/info/meetings/iwc>

For a tentative agenda and other details, please visit the IWC 2011 website: <http://iwc2011slo.com>

Members with specific questions should contact Brother Galvani at: (805) 305-3864 (cell); or [sloble664@wildblue.net](mailto:sloble664@wildblue.net). @@

2011

## Calendar & Events

**August 2-7, 2011**

**73rd annual Eastern Union Meeting Association**  
**LONG ISLAND, N.Y.**

Hyatt Regency Long Island, Hauppauge, N.Y.  
Contact host chairman Jim Brown by email: [loco542@optonline.net](mailto:loco542@optonline.net)  
Website: [www.euma2011.org](http://www.euma2011.org)

**August 21-27, 2011**

**71st annual International Western Convention**  
**SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIF.**

Embassy Suites Hotel-San Luis Obispo  
Contact host chairman Mike Galvani by phone or email: (805) 927-2967 or [SLOBLE664@wildblue.net](mailto:SLOBLE664@wildblue.net)

**August 26-28, 2011**

**Teamsters Women's Conference**

Join Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa and General Secretary-Treasurer Tom Keegel for the 2011 Teamsters Women's Conference at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers. For questions, contact the Teamsters Training and Development Department, (202) 624-8117, or visit [www.teamsters.org/women](http://www.teamsters.org/women). The deadline for hotel reservations is July 28, 2011.

**September 18-22, 2011**

**76th annual Southwestern Convention Meeting**  
**EL PASO, TEXAS**

Camino Real Hotel  
Contact host chairman Larry Schneider by phone or email: (915) 581-1373 or [schneiderman@elp.rr.com](mailto:schneiderman@elp.rr.com)  
Website: [www.bletsbcm.org](http://www.bletsbcm.org)

# Some things get better with Time

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\$180	\$68.40	\$410.40	\$820.80
\$200	\$76.00	\$456.00	\$912.00



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## 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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### Photo of the Month: June/July 2011



**AN EMPTY HOPPER TRAIN** en route from Columbus, Ohio, to Russell, Ky., crosses the Ohio River southbound into Kentucky along the Limeville Bridge. *Photo:* courtesy Andy Chabot, BLET Division 894 (Columbus, Ohio)



**Are you a photographer?** The National Division's Public Relations Department, which produces the Newsletter each month, has received numerous inquiries lately from BLET members volunteering to contrib-

ute their images to the "Photo of the Month" section of the Newsletter. If you'd like to submit a photo for consideration, you may call Editor John Bentley at (216) 241-2630, ext. 248, or you can email: Bentley@ble-t.org.

Please note only high resolution images can be used. Members are also encouraged to review their employer's policies regarding the use of cameras and other electronic devices while on duty.

# Amtrak privatization plan a bad idea for workers, passengers

In a June 20 letter to members of the U.S. House of Representatives, BLET National President Dennis R. Pierce expressed the organization's complete opposition to a Republican plan to privatize and dismantle Amtrak.

Introduced by Reps. John Mica (R-Fla.) and Bill Shuster (R-Pa.), the Competition for Intercity Passenger Rail in America Act would dismantle Amtrak and privatize the Northeast Corridor. President Pierce warned that the bill would jeopardize the jobs of 20,000 Amtrak employees and would undermine the stability of the Railroad Retirement system, thereby hurting all railroad workers — not just those at Amtrak.

"Contrary to Representative Mica's assertions, the proposal does not have the support of labor and would be an unmitigated disaster for both railroad workers and the traveling public," National President Dennis Pierce wrote. "It would jeopardize the jobs of 20,000 working men and women currently employed by Amtrak, undermine the Railroad Retirement system that provides pensions for over 525,000 adult annuitants, and imperil rail passenger service nationwide."

The Mica proposal would also seek to eliminate labor protections under the privatized Northeast Corridor.

"The bill states that private entities providing rail service are considered rail carriers 'only for purposes of title 49, United States Code.' Thus, these pseudo-carriers would be exempt from important Title 45 requirements, including the Railway Labor Act and the Railroad Retirement and Railroad Unemployment Insurance Acts," Pierce wrote.

He also said the traveling public would suffer serious reductions in service, and that long distance lines would "shrivel up and disappear."

President Pierce concluded by pointing to Amtrak's recent ridership increases as a sign of the national passenger railroad's growing success. He also called upon all members of the House to stand together in support of Amtrak and its workers.

"Instead of this job killing, ridership devastating plan, we ought to be looking at ways to help Amtrak achieve the goal of high-speed rail; not looking for ways to dismantle it. Please stand up for workers, communities and riders and oppose this legislation," Pierce wrote. @

**A PDF OF HIS LETTER IS ON THE BLET WEBSITE:**  
[WWW.BLE-T.ORG/PR/PDF/MICA\\_PROPOSAL.PDF](http://WWW.BLE-T.ORG/PR/PDF/MICA_PROPOSAL.PDF)

## Advisory Board April 2011 Activity

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

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT DENNIS R. PIERCE:** National Division Office, Cleveland; General supervision of BLET activities; General office duties; Correspondence and telephone communications; Supervision of Office Administration; General Supervision of Special Representatives; President, Teamsters Rail Conference; Policy Committee, Teamsters Rail Conference; Texas State Legislative Board mtg., Austin, Texas; Wisconsin State Legislative Board mtg., Madison, Wisc.; Rail Labor Bargaining Coalition mtg., Washington, D.C.; Mtg. w/ CSX CEO, Jacksonville, Fla.; Western General Chairman's Assoc. mtg., Las Vegas, Nevada; Advisory Board mtg., Las Vegas.

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT E.L. "LEE" PRUITT:** National Duties include but not limited to: Director, Passenger Dept.; Shortline Organizing Dept.; Trainmen's Dept.; National Publications Committee; National Legislative Board; Teamsters Rail Conference Policy Committee; and National Negotiations; Texas State Legislative Board mtg., Austin; National Short Term Disability insurance mtg. w/ consultant, all UP GCA, Wash. DC; National negotiations, Wash. DC; B&O museum reception, Baltimore, Md.; WGCA mtg., Las Vegas; Advisory Board mtg., Las Vegas.

**NATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER WILLIAM C. WALPERT:** General supervision of accounting dept., records dept., online services dept., tax compliance dept.; Education & Training Dept.; Internal Organizing, Mobilizing & Strategic Planning Dept.; Safety Task Force; Meetings with vendors and financial institutions; Publications Committee; Teamsters Rail Conference Policy Committee; Texas State Legislative Board, Austin, Texas; Education & Training planning session; Western General Chairmen Assoc. mtg., Las Vegas.

**VICE PRESIDENT & NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE JOHN P. TOLMAN:** Assigned to BLET Washington, DC office; BLET Security Officer; General office duties, telephone, correspondence communications; Coordinate content of NLO website; Texas State Legislative Board mtg., Austin; Wisconsin State Legislative Board mtg., Madison; Tuesday Group mtg., Wash. DC; WGCA mtg. and Advisory Board mtg., Las Vegas; FRA pre-hearing on railroads & hazmat transportation, Wash. DC; House Transportation & Infrastructure committee hearing, re: railroad and hazmat transportation regulations, Subcommittee on RRs, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials, Wash. DC; Conference call, re: Critical Incident Study; Met w/ various House Representatives in lobbying effort on Family Medical Leave Act, Hours of Service and high-speed rail, Wash. DC; Numerous receptions, meet & greets, for various U.S. Representatives, Wash. DC.

**VICE PRESIDENT MARCUS J. RUEF:** Vice Chairman, full NRAB; Labor Member, 1st Division; Labor Member, National Mediation Board Arbitration Advisory Forum; Director of Arbitration Dept; Assigned to Illinois Central; Wisconsin Central; Grand Trunk Western; Duluth Missabe & Iron Range; Elgin, Joliet & Eastern; Indiana Harbor Belt; and Belt Railway of Chicago; NRAB conf. call, third party notice issue, Docket 47435; Assist GC Clark w/ disciplinary issues, DMIR; Section 6 talks w/ GC Karakian, GTW, Chicago; WC claims conference, mtgs. w/ GC Reynolds, Chicago; BRC claims conference, w/ GC Kaulins, and assist IHB GC Cundari, Chicago; Education & Training planning mtgs., Cleveland; Discuss/study dockets 46168 and 47435, Chicago; B&O Museum opening reception, Baltimore, Md.; Assist GC Quinn w/ discipline issues, LIRR; WGCA, Las Vegas; Advisory Board mtg., Las Vegas; Vacation; Assist GC Karakian w/ discipline submissions, GTW; Assist GC Reynolds w/ PLB issues, WC.

**VICE PRESIDENT MIKE TWOMBLY:** Assigned to all Union Pacific GCAs (Eastern District, Northern Region (former C&NW), Western Lines (Pacific Harbor Lines), Western Region (Portland & Western, Eastern Idaho), Central Region, Southern Region (New Orleans & Gulf Coast); Tacoma Belt RR; Utah RR; and Longview Portland & Northern and Longview Switching; DMIR section 6 mediation, Minneapolis, Minn.; WGCA, Las Vegas; Advisory Board mtg., Las Vegas; PLB 6659, UP, Syracuse, N.Y.; PLB 5604, UP, Miami, Fla.

**VICE PRESIDENT WILLARD E. KNIGHT:** Assigned to: All Norfolk Southern General Committees; Wheeling & Lake Erie; Chicago, Fort Wayne & Eastern; New York, Susquehanna & Western; New England Central; Connecticut Southern; Western New York & Pennsylvania; Indiana & Ohio; Ohio Central; General office duties, paperwork, correspondence, telephone calls; Assist GC Linsey w/ finalizing CF&E Section 6 notices, Cleveland; National negotiations, Wash. DC; WGCA, Las Vegas; Advisory Board mtg., Las Vegas; Ohio Central negotiations, Columbus, Ohio.

**VICE PRESIDENT GIL GORE:** Assigned to all CSX; Union Pacific-Southern Region GCA special assignment; NYD NMA conference call, CSXT, w/ GC Louis and Finamore; North Mid Atlantic EBS implementation assistance & conference call, GC Louis, CSXT; Exec session, PLB 7384 award 21; Exec. Session, PLB 7353, Awards 33 and 34; Mtg. w/ CSXT CEO Michael Ward, Jacksonville, Fla.; WGCA, Las Vegas; Advisory Board mtg., Las Vegas; Vacation; Paper work, telephone calls and other correspondence, general office duties.

**VICE PRESIDENT MICHAEL D. PRIESTER:** Assigned to all BNSF (former ATSF, former C&S, CRI&P, FWD, former STL-SF, BNSF/MRL), Panhandle Northern, Missouri & North Arkansas, Montana Rail Link, Austin Western RR, Great Western; general office duties, telephone, correspondence communications; Mtgs. w/ BNSF GCs and Safety Coordinators, w/ GCs Wilson, Gibbons, Williams, VGC Dumey, and Safety Coordinators R. Olson, S. Brandenburg and T. Reddish, Fort Worth, Texas; BNSF Safety Coordinators mtg./retreat, w/ GC Gibbons, Williams, Wilson and BNSF Safety Coordinators, Las Vegas; BNSF GC summit, GCs Wilson, Gibbons and Williams, Las Vegas; WGCA, Las Vegas; Advisory Board mtg., Las Vegas; PLB 7383, BNSF, w/ GC M. Wilson, Las Vegas; Mtg. w/ BNSF GC. P. Williams and Division members, Great Northern RR, Denver, Colo.

**VICE PRESIDENT COLE W. DAVIS:** Assigned to Kansas City Southern (MidSouth Rail, SouthRail, Gateway Western, Illinois & Midland), Texas Mexican Rwy.; CP Rail System/US (Indiana Southern, Iowa, Chicago & Eastern, Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern); Springfield Terminal (St. Lawrence & Atlantic, Montreal, Maine & Atlantic, Delaware & Hudson), Cedar River, Louisville & Indiana, Huron & Eastern; Division 527 mtg. w/ KCS GC Parker, Pittsburg, Kan.; IC and NS assistance, GCs Semenek and Linsey; SHSH conference call, KCS GC Parker; NS agreement assistance, GC Linsey; Agreement codification, KCS GC Parker; Tex Mex RR Division mtg., Laredo, Texas; St. Lawrence & Atlantic contact negotiations, Auburn, Maine; WGCA, Las Vegas; Advisory Board mtg., Las Vegas; Mid South RR assistance, GC Whitchurch; Louisville & Indiana discipline case, GC Hartill; Tex Mex meal allowance and EOT allowance, GC Rodriguez.

**VICE PRESIDENT STEPHEN J. BRUNO:** Assigned to various Rail Safety Advisory Committees (RSAC); Regulatory duties as assigned by the President; Amtrak; Long Island Rail Road; New York & Atlantic; Metro North; New Jersey Transit; PATH; SEPTA; Metra; Union Railroad; Birmingham Southern; Update ongoing projects and agreements, LIRR, B&S, CP Metra, Philadelphia; Regulatory work, re: RSIA technical corrections, dark territory, Wash., D.C.; Regulatory work, re: LSS comments, Wash., D.C.; Regulatory work, re: Fatigue website and LSS comments, Wash., D.C.; Stabenow fundraiser, IBT, Wash., D.C.; Legislative and regulatory work, T&I committee, dark territory, Wash., D.C.; Office duties, filing, paperwork, telephone, email correspondence, etc.