

# THE LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER NEWSLETTER • OCTOBER 2002

## Baton Rouge bans remote controls

City Council votes 10-1 to outlaw remote control locomotives within city limits

By a vote of 10-1, the City Council of Baton Rouge, La., passed a resolution to ban the use of remote control locomotives in the city due to public safety concerns.

The September 25 vote came after the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers made City Council members aware of the fact that the Kansas City Southern was using remote control locomotives within city limits, and that a remote control unit derailed in August.

"The next derailment might be one where there's chemicals (on the train) and we can't get people out," Baton Rouge Mayor Pro Tempore Lorri Burgess said in a newspaper article published in the *Baton-Rouge Advocate* on September 26.

The resolution, which is not legally binding, was passed in order to create public awareness of the practice and to make railroads more responsive to residents.

"If the knowledge base has been expanded through this resolution, I think the mission has been accomplished," Mayor Pro Tempore Burgess said.

The city's resolution also calls upon the Federal Railroad Administration to develop comprehensive

regulations to govern the use of remote control locomotives.

The lone dissenter on the Baton Rouge City Council said the measure was "reckless" and that the issue of remote control locomotives was one of union politics. In the name of public safety, however, he was out-voted by a 10-to-1 ratio.

Rodney Stutes, a member of BLE Division 366 (Houston) and a member of the BLE's National Mobilization Team, addressed members of the City Council's Finance and Executive Committee on September 19 and told them about the KCS remote control derailment in August. He also informed the Council members that the Canadian National Railway, which pioneered the use of remotes in the early 1990s, has used the technology sparingly — if at all — on its properties in the United States due to efficiency and safety concerns.

The BLE has conducted a string of public safety rallies throughout the United States this summer in an effort to create public awareness of remote control locomotives and the safety concerns that arise from using employees other than locomotive engineers to operate the technology.

### Full-text of City Council's resolution

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On September 17, an employee of the California Northern Railroad was injured and lost his left leg while operating a remote control locomotive in Napa Valley, Calif.

Michael F. O'Brien, Chairman of the Louisiana State Legislative Board, recognized several BLE members who participated in the lobbying effort, including: Sam Parker, General Chairman on the Kansas City Southern; Tim Windsor, Local Chairman of BLE Division 527 (Pittsburg, Kan.); Brother Stutes; and Bob Harvey of the BLE's National Legislative Office in Washington, D.C. The Louisiana State AFL-CIO was also instrumental in opening doors to communicate with the City Council.

"Thanks also to those who have taken the time to report and photograph remote control incidents and all those who have given their time to put on and participate in the informational demonstrations held so far across this country," Brother O'Brien said. "Without your interest and participation this may not have happened." •

## BLE-IBT subcommittees begin talks

At an October 3 meeting of the BLE's Advisory Board and the IBT's General Executive Board, dates were announced for meetings of four joint subcommittees charged with the task of exploring a merger of the BLE and Teamsters.

"The process has begun and the committees are starting to meet," BLE International President Don M. Hahs said.

"This is an important time for our Brotherhood. A merger with the Teamsters would provide a unique opportunity for BLE members to become part of the world's most powerful transportation union."

The BLE is seeking a merger that will guarantee the maximum amount of autonomy under the Teamsters' umbrella, allowing the BLE to operate independently but subject to the constitution of the IBT.

As reported previously, four joint BLE-IBT subcommittees will review aspects of the merger or affiliation and report

to a two-person Merger Committee, co-chaired by BLE President Hahs and IBT General President James Hoffa. The four subcommittees are Constitution & Bylaws, Finance, Legislative and Canada.

The Constitution & Bylaws Subcommittee will hold its first meeting on November 4-6. First Vice-President & Alternate President Ed Rodziewicz is the BLE's co-chairman on the committee, and the IBT's co-chairman is General Secretary-Treasurer C. Thomas Keegel. The primary goal of the Constitution & Bylaws Subcommittee is to produce a Merger Agreement and suitable Bylaws for the BLE as the Rail Conference within the IBT.

The Finance Subcommittee, co-chaired by BLE General Secretary-Treasurer Bill Walpert, has scheduled meetings for October 22-23 and November 6-8. Brother Keegel is also the IBT co-chairman of the Finance Subcommittee. This

Subcommittee will research and advise the Merger Committee concerning the appropriate per capita structure for the BLE if merged with the Teamsters.

The Legislative Subcommittee has scheduled its first meeting for October 21. BLE Vice-President & U.S. National Legislative Representative Raymond Holmes is co-chairman of this subcommittee, along with Mike Mathis, who is the Teamsters' Director of Government Affairs. The Legislative Subcommittee will determine the appropriate organization of the BLE's Legislative Boards within the IBT and within the IBT Rail Conference.

The Canadian Subcommittee, co-chaired by Gilles Hallé, BLE Vice-President & Canadian Director, and George Hucker, BLE Vice-President & National Legislative Representative-Canada, will meet with the Teamsters from October 31-November 1. The Teamster

See Teamsters, Page 3

## Neutrals picked for remote control arbitration; Deadline extended

From a final list furnished by the National Mediation Board, the remote control arbitration board neutral member and "deadlock" neutral member were selected on September 20 by the parties involved in the dispute.

The neutral member and chairman of the arbitration board will be Gil Vernon, a long-time and well-respected arbitrator in the rail industry. The "deadlock" neutral member will be James McDonnell, also a reputable and experienced rail arbitrator. McDonnell will attend all board hearings and consider the written filings, but will not participate in the board's executive sessions or deliberations. He will cast a sealed vote that will be used only in the case of a deadlock.

The upcoming arbitration hearings will determine whether Locomotive Engineers or trainmen have the

right to operate remote control technology.

"We are pleased with the selections of these two fine arbitrators," said BLE President Don M. Hahs. "We are confident they will make a fair and accurate decision in this important case."

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and United Transportation Union will each have one vote in the proceedings, while six railroad companies (BNSF, Conrail, CSX, KCS, NS and UP) will have one total vote. Arbitrator Vernon will also have one vote.

The three parties could not agree on a single question to pose to the arbitrators, so each party submitted its own question. The arbitration panel will render a decision on the questions posed by each of the parties.

See Remote Control, Page 8

# BLE NEWS

## BLE welcomes new Tex-Mex members



From left: Martin Andrade, brakeman; Raul Nunez, engineer; and Juan Garaza, conductor.



"Beto" Lucio, Conductor



From left: Juan Espinoza, conductor; and Sergio Gonzalez Jr., conductor.



From left: Alfonso Contreras, engineer; and Eloy Perez, conductor.



From left: Juan Garza Jr., conductor; Martin Andrade, brakeman; and Raul Nunez, engineer.



George Leyendecker, engineer.

## BLE welcomes new Tex-Mex members



From left: Ricky Martinez, conductor; and Mike Montalvo, conductor.



From left: Conrado Wise, conductor; and Jose "Che" Garza, engineer.



From left: Eddie Perez, engineer; John Harris, conductor; and Rolando Garcia, brakeman.



From left: George Dabdoub Jr., engineer; Ricky Martinez, conductor; and Jose Luis Morales, brakeman.



From left: Terry Gill, engineer; Abel Garza, brakeman; and Terry Cooper, conductor.



From left: Jose Luis Morales, conductor; Danny Compton, conductor; Javier Martinez, engineer; and George Leyendecker, engineer.

### Teamsters

Continued from Page 1

co-chairmen are Robert Bouvier, President of Teamsters Canada, and Francois LaPorte, Recording Secre-

tary, Teamsters Local 1998. This Subcommittee will advise the Merger Committee concerning the appropriate structure for Canadian members.

According to the Procedural Agreement, approved on August 1 by the BLE Executive Committee and the IBT Gen-

eral Executive Board, the work of these Subcommittees will be completed in approximately six months. Once the Merger Agreement is agreed upon by the two parties, it will go to each organization for approval according to its Constitution.

The BLE's Constitution & By-laws requires any proposed merger or affiliation to be approved by a majority of BLE members in a secret ballot. Section 1(e) of the BLE Constitution governs this merger process.

# SOUTHWESTERN CONVENTION MEETING



Cecil Roberts (center), President of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA), was a featured speaker during opening ceremonies at the 67th annual Southwestern Convention Meeting (SWCM). SWCM Chairman Mark Banton, right, and BLE International President Don Hahs, left, thank President Roberts following his speech, which was well-received by the audience.



From left: Hiram Posey, President of Division 192 (El Paso); James K. Boyd, Division 592 (Dalhart, Texas); Bobbi Boyd; and Lori Posey.



From left: BNSF General Chairman Dennis Pierce and General Secretary-Treasurer William C. Walpert.



International Vice-President Joseph A. Cassidy Jr.



From left: Mary Anna Mullins, GIA International Chaplain; Bill Mullins, a retired member of BLE Division 182 (N. Little Rock, Ark.); and Anita Caruso, GIA International Secretary.



From left: Mary Anna Mullins, GIA International Chaplain; and Debbie Keele, GIA Alternate International Secretary.



President Hahs & Ed Rodzwicz, First Vice-President & Alternate President, meet with a group of BLE members. From left: Russell Elley, Legislative Representative of Division 197 (San Antonio); Dan Stanfield, a member of BLE Division 197 (San Antonio); President Hahs; Jeff Zunker, Local Chairman of Division 197 (San Antonio); Greg Bailey, Local Chairman of Division 62 (Houston); and First Vice-President Rodzwicz.



Members of the Cleburn (Texas) High School choir. During opening ceremonies, the choir performed "The Star-Spangled Banner," with a prelude from the "Battle Hymn of the Republic." This was followed by the lead baritone's solo performance of "O Canada."



Seated: Cooksey Humphrey, a retired member of BLE Division 326 (Bossier City, La.). Standing, from left: Lynn Weninger, Janice Hahs, and Martha Humphrey.

# FORT WORTH, TEXAS



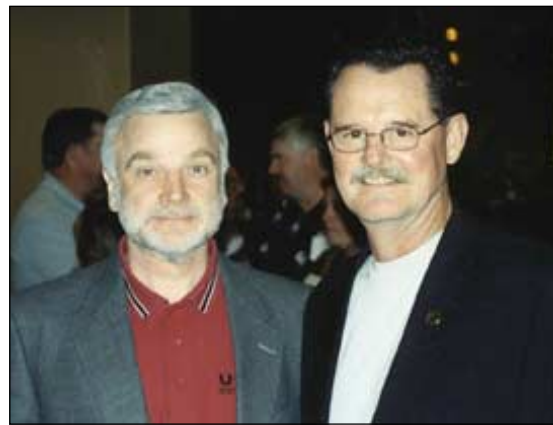
From left: Tim Windsor, SWCM Treasurer; Mark Banton, SWCM Host Chairman; and Rodney Stutes, SWCM Chairman.



From left: Ron Sikorski, Local Chairman of Division 139 (Houston); Mrs. Lara; R.O. Lara, President of Division 139; Glenda Sikorski, President of GIA "Lone Star" Auxiliary 139 (Houston); and Lowell Cantrell.



From left: James Jackson, Local Chairman of Division 109 (East St. Louis, Ill.); and Rick Gibbons, BNSF General Chairman (former St. Louis-Santa Fe).



From left: UMWA President Cecil Roberts and BLE Texas State Legislative Board Chairman Terry Briggs.



Illinois Central General Chairman John Koonce.



From left: Garry Harper, Local Chairman of BLE Division 383 (Needles, Calif.) and Cal Holland, Local Chairman of BLE Division 134 (Winslow, Ariz.).



Standing: Louisiana State Legislative Board Chairman M.F. O'Brien. Foreground, from left: Ed Bayne and T.E. Hawk, Secretary-Treasurer of Division 206 (Temple, Texas).



From left: Members of the SWCM Scholarship Committee: Don Hahs, International President; Leo Srubas, retired member of BLE Division 81 (Kansas City, Kan.); Patty Howell; Onita Wayland, GIA International President; and Bill Walpert, General Secretary-Treasurer.



Secretary-Treasurers take advantage of a workshop provided by the International Division during the SWCM.



From left: Randy Dumey, Local Chairman of Division 595 (Chaffee, Mo.) and Vice-General Chairman, BNSF (former St. Louis-Santa Fe); Rick Gibbons, BNSF General Chairman; International Vice-President Stephen Speagle; and G.T. Haskins, Local Chairman of BLE Division 672. Brother Gibbons is host of the 2003 SWCM in Branson, Mo.

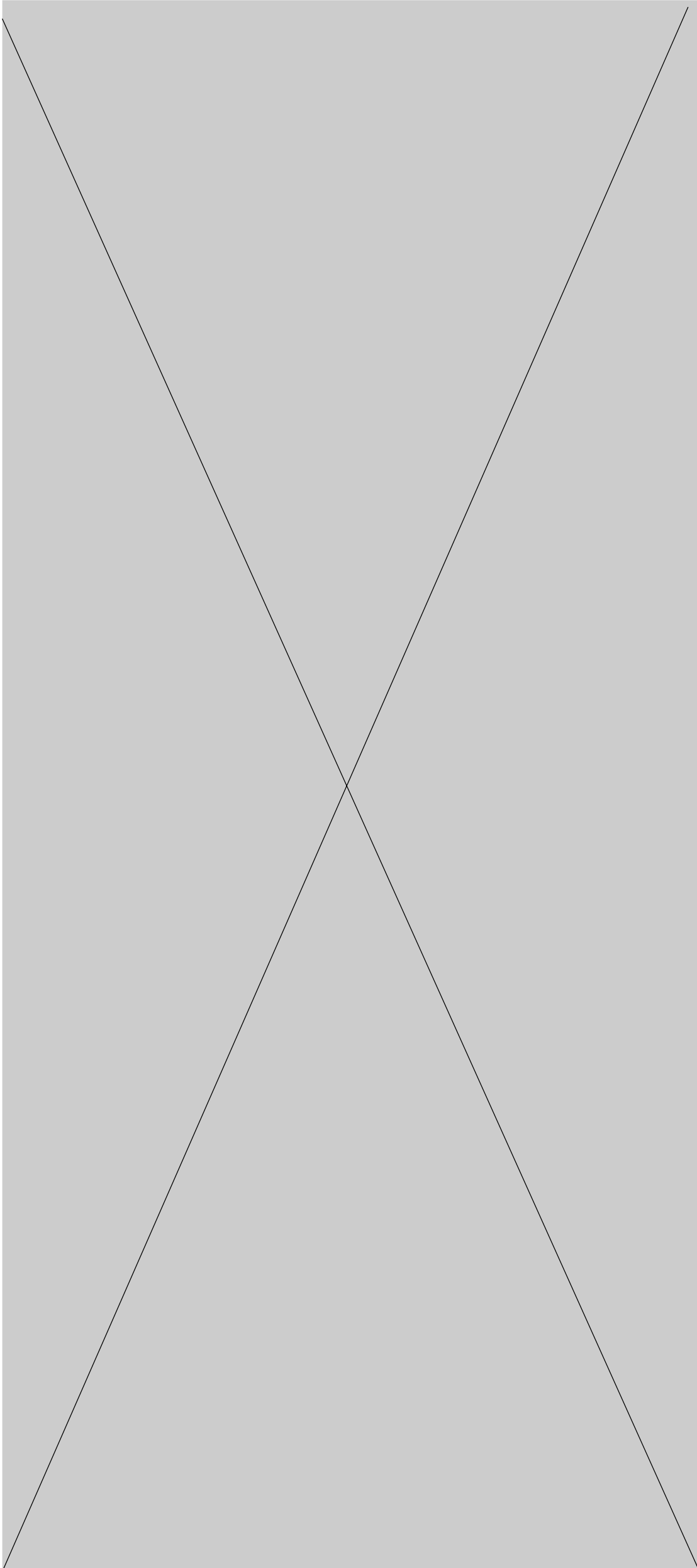
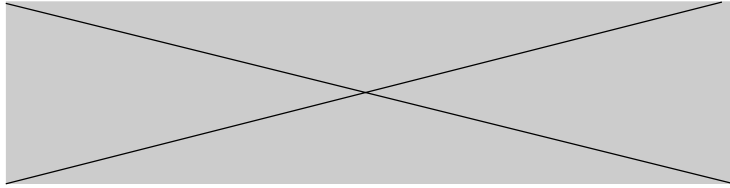
## 2003 SWCM — Branson, Missouri

September 28-October 2; More details to come when available

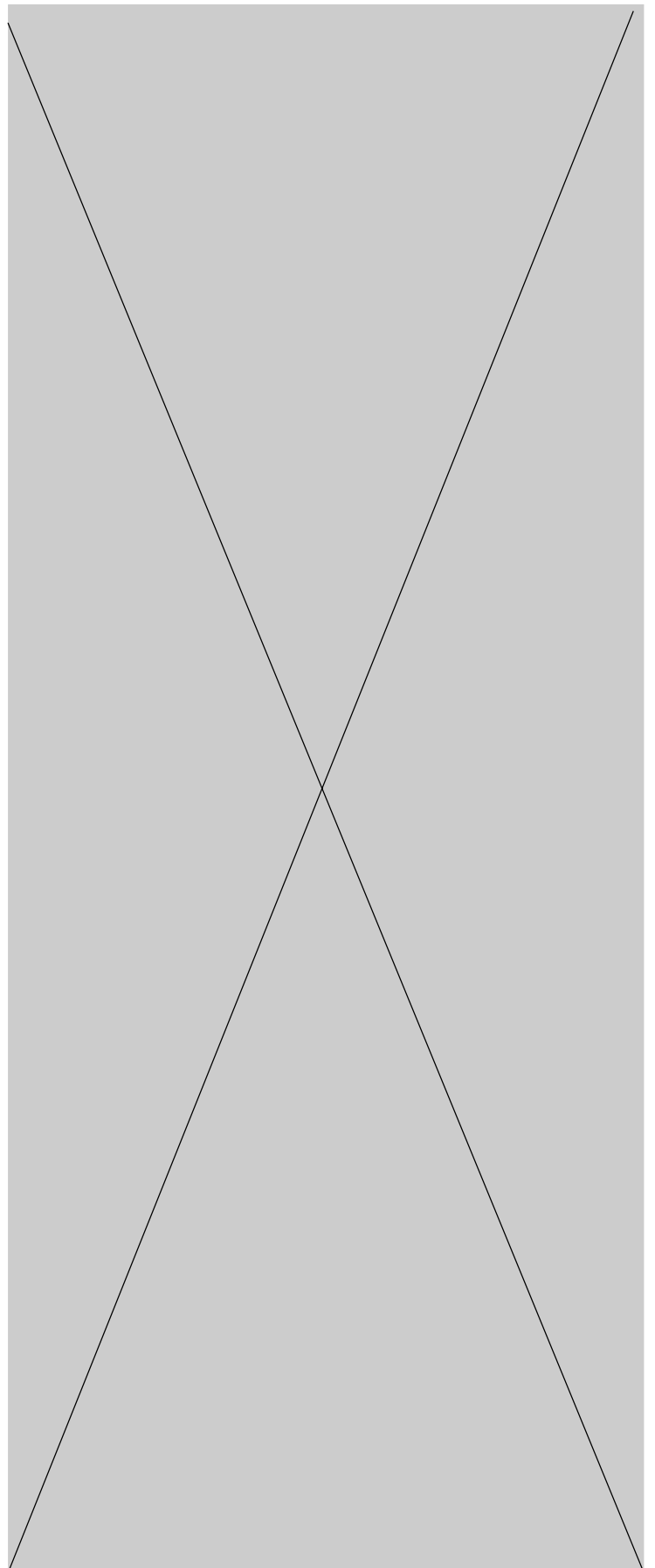
# ELECTION 2002

## List of BLE-endorsed candidates

Editor's Note: Due to Federal Election Commission (FEC) regulations, the list of BLE-endorsed candidates is only available in the members-only section of the BLE website.



From the May 18, 1962 issue of the Locomotive Engineer.



**ELECTION 2002****List of BLE-endorsed candidates****BLE Job Bank  
Amtrak**

Amtrak, the National Railroad Passenger Corp., is recruiting Locomotive Engineers to work out of the following location: New Orleans; Jacksonville, Fla.; Raleigh, N.C.; Florence, S.C.; and Meridian, Miss. Duties include the safe operation of diesel-electric locomotives, complying with train orders, wayside signals, railroad operating rules, special instructions, and federal, state and local regulations to transport passengers and equipment safely and efficiently.

Locomotive Engineers perform equipment and air brake tests as required. Job involves working alone and apart in physical isolation while integrating activities with others. Engineers must make timely and critical decisions under stressful situations to safeguard lives and property.

Candidates must have a current Class I Engineer Certificate and must currently be working as a Locomotive Engineer with one year of service. Any candidate whose driving record indicates a conviction for an alcohol or substance violation, or a refusal to submit to testing in connection with a moving violation within the past 36 months, will be automatically disqualified. Candidates must be able to report to their Crew Base within a 2-hour call.

Resumes may be forwarded to Amtrak Human Resources Department, 900 Second Street, NE, Washington, DC, faxed to 202-906-3349, or emailed to <cannont@amtrak.com>.

Amtrak is an equal opportunity employer: EOE, M/F, D/V

**2002 BLE Fees  
Objector Policy****1. Employee Rights**

a. Any employee covered by a union or agency shop agreement in the United States has the legal right to be or remain a nonmember of the Union. Nonmembers have the legal right: (1) to object to paying for Union activities not related to collective bargaining, contract administration and grievance adjustment, and to obtain a reduction in fees for such activities; (2) to be given sufficient information to intelligently decide whether to object; and (3) to be apprised of internal Union procedures for filing objections. Employees who choose to object have the right to be apprised of the percentage of the reduction, the basis for the calculation, and the right to challenge these figures.

b. To the extent permitted by law, nonmembers may not participate in Union elections as a voter or as a candidate; attend Union meetings; serve as delegates to the Convention, or participate in the selection of such delegates; or participate in the process by which collective bargaining agreements are ratified.

**2. Publication of Policy**

The fee objector policy shall be published annually in the BLE's newsletter in the month preceding the objection notice period and mailed annually to each objector. It shall also be provided to each new employee when s/he first becomes subject to a union shop agreement.

**3. Making Objection Known**

Objecting nonmembers shall provide notice of objection by notifying the International General Secretary-Treasurer of the objection by first-class mail postmarked during the month of November preceding the calendar year to which s/he objects, or within thirty (30) days after s/he first begins paying fees and receives notice of these procedures, except for 1996 only objectors to 1997 fees shall state their objection by January 31, 1997.

The objection shall contain the objector's current home address. Nonmembers wishing to continue their objection from year to year must renew their objection each year as specified in this paragraph.

Objections may only be made by individual employees. No petition objections will be honored.

**4. Major Categories of Chargeable Expenses**

All objectors shall pay their fair share of expenses germane to collective bargaining including:

a. All expenses concerning the negotiation of agreements, practices and working conditions;

b. All expenses concerning the administration of agreements, practices and working conditions, including grievance handling, all activities related to arbitration, and discussion with employees in the craft or class (or bargaining unit) or employer representatives regarding working conditions, benefits and contract rights;

c. Convention expenses and other union internal governance and management expenses;

d. Social activities and union business meeting expenses;

e. Publication expenses to the extent coverage is related to chargeable activities;

f. Expenses of litigation related to collective bargaining, contract administration and internal governance;

g. Expenses for legislative and administrative agency activities to effectuate collective bargaining agreements;

h. All expenses for the education and training of officers and staff intended to prepare the participants to better perform chargeable activities;

i. All costs of strikes and other lawful economic actions.

**5. Determination of Chargeable Share**

The BLE shall retain a certified public accountant to perform an independent audit of the records of the International Division. The BLE shall also retain an independent referee for the purpose of determining the percentage of expenditures that fall within the categories specified in Section 4. The amount of the expenditures that fall within Section 4 shall be the basis for calculating the reduced fees that must be paid by the objector. The independent referee shall also give an opinion concerning the adequacy of the escrow amounts maintained pursuant to Sec-

tion 10, and later will verify the existence and the amounts of money in any escrow account.

**6. Report of Chargeable Share and Basis of Its Calculation**

The independent referee shall report the determination no later than May 31. This report shall include an analysis of the major categories of union expenses that are chargeable and non-chargeable. A copy of the independent referee's report shall be sent to all nonmembers whose timely objections have not been revoked.

**7. Challenge Procedure**

Each person entitled to receive the referee's report may challenge the validity of the calculations made by the independent referee by filing an appeal with the International General Secretary-Treasurer. Such appeal must be made by sending a letter to the International General Secretary-Treasurer postmarked no later than June 30.

**8. Arbitration of Challenges**

a. After the close of the appeals period, the International General Secretary-Treasurer shall provide a list of appellants to the American Arbitration Association (AAA). All appeals shall be consolidated. The AAA shall appoint an arbitrator pursuant to its Rules for Impartial Determination of Union Fees. The AAA shall inform the International.

b. The arbitration shall commence by August 1 or as soon thereafter as the AAA can schedule the arbitration. The arbitrator shall have control over all procedural matters affecting the arbitration in order to fulfill the need for an informed and expeditious arbitration.

c. Each party to the arbitration shall bear their own costs. The appellants shall have the option of paying a pro-rata portion of the arbitrator's fees and expenses. The balance of such fees and expenses shall be paid by the BLE.

d. A court reporter shall make a transcript of all proceedings before the arbitrator. This transcript shall be the official record of the proceedings and may be purchased by the appellants. If appellants do not purchase a copy of the transcript, a copy shall be available for inspection at the International during normal business hours.

e. Appellants may, at their expense, be represented by counsel or other representative of choice. Appellants need not

appear at the hearing and shall be permitted to file written statements with the arbitrator instead of appearing. Such statement shall be filed no later than fifteen (15) days after the transcript becomes available, but in no case more than thirty (30) days after the hearing closes.

f. Fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the first hearing, appellants shall be provided with a list of all exhibits intended to be introduced at the hearing and a list of all witnesses intended to be called, except for exhibits and witnesses that may be introduced for rebuttal. On written request from an appellant, copies of exhibits (or in the case of voluminous exhibits, summaries thereof) shall be provided to them. Additionally, copies of exhibits shall be available for inspection and copying at the hearing.

g. The International shall have the burden of establishing that the reduced fees set forth in the referee's report are lawful.

h. If the arbitrator shall determine that more than one day of hearings is necessary, hearings shall be scheduled to continue from day to day until completed. The parties to the appeal shall have the right to file a brief within fifteen (15) days after the transcript of the hearing is available, but in no case no more than thirty (30) days after the hearing closes. The arbitrator shall issue a decision within forty-five (45) days after the submission of post-hearing briefs or within such other reasonable period as is consistent with the rules established by the AAA.

i. The arbitrator shall give full consideration to the legal requirements limiting the amounts that objectors may be charged, and shall set forth in the decision the legal and arithmetic basis for such decision.

**9. Payment of Reduced Fees**

Objectors shall pay reduced monthly fees based on the most recent report of the independent referee pending determination of the objection year's chargeable ratio.

**10. Escrow of Disputed Funds**

An amount equal to 25 percent of the reduced monthly fees, or such other greater amount as the independent referee may recommend, shall be placed in an interest-bearing escrow account pending final determination of the chargeable share. Escrowed funds shall be disbursed to objectors and the Union upon issuance of the arbitrator's decision or fifteen (15) days after the conclusion of the appeal period if there are no challenges to the independent referee's determination. •

# BLE NEWS

## Resolution adopted by Baton Rouge, La., City Council, banning remote control trains

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING THAT NO RAILROAD SHALL OPERATE REMOTE CONTROLLED LOCOMOTIVES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF BATON ROUGE UNTIL CERTAIN SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS ARE MET. (Adopted September 25, 2002)

**Whereas:** the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge have a duty to provide for the public safety of its Citizens; and

**Whereas:** railroads operate within the geographic boundaries of Baton Rouge, over public and private highway rail crossings and on property accessible to persons of all ages and abilities; and

**Whereas:** railroad equipment is known to present significant danger to persons and property from collision, derailment, and possible release of hazardous materials; and

**Whereas:** a significant bulk of Kansas City Southern (KCS) Railroad's cargo is petrochemical and hazardous materials traveling through and being switched in Baton Rouge; and

**Whereas:** the United States Government has issued a safety alert against vandalism and terroristic threats against railroads:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Metropolitan Council of the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge, that no railroad shall operate remote controlled locomotives within the boundaries of Baton Rouge until

all of the following safety considerations are met

1. Any railroad operating a remote control locomotive must notify the Office of Mayor-President before implementing such operations.

2. Remote control locomotives cannot be used to transport hazardous materials, switch cars containing hazardous materials, or switch other cars on or near tracks occupied by hazardous materials.

3. Remote control locomotives cannot be operated over a public or private highway rail crossing without a person occupying the cab of the locomotive who has the required skills to stop the locomotive and its attached equipment.

4. A railroad must provide effective and reliable protection at the point of movement in any location accessible to the general public for any remote control operation.

**Be It Further Resolved,** That the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge requests that in the interest of the safety of the Citizens of Baton Rouge that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) develop comprehensive regulations for the use of remote control locomotives.

**Be It Further Resolved,** that all remote controlled operations in Baton Rouge cease and desist until such time as Baton Rouge Emergency Preparedness can study and have a plan in place for evacuation before such remote control is implemented. •

## Neutrals picked for remote arbitration

### Remote Control

Continued from Page 1

The BLE question states, "The assignment of other than locomotive engineers to operate locomotives via remote control in connection with the movement of cars, trains and/or engines in terminal operations is a violation of the exclusive rights of locomotive engineers to perform such service pursuant to existing BLE Agreements and established practice."

In a related event, the BLE announced on October 8 that the deadlines for the exchange and filing of submissions and the convening of the ar-

bitration hearing was extended by two weeks. The BLE, UTU and Carriers agreed to this extension following the death of Bettie (Betts) Miller, wife of UTU General Counsel Clint Miller. Mrs. Miller succumbed to a lengthy illness on October 3, and the BLE has issued its condolences to the Miller family.

Now, the opening and reply submissions are due October 29 and November 13, 2002, respectively. The Arbitration Agreement provides for the Board to commence hearings within 10 days after the reply submissions have been exchanged.

It is expected that a decision will be reached by the arbitration board before the end of the year. •

## OCTOBER 2002 CALENDAR & EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 2-7, 2003... Local Chairman Workshop, George Meany Center, Silver Spring, Md.** Among other assignments, the workshops will include BLE organizational structure and functions, representing members at disciplinary and decertification hearings, union leadership skills, claim and grievance handling, and writing and editing skills. Participants also will learn how to effectively use the BLE arbitration database. A highlight of the workshops is when attendees participate in a simulated disciplinary hearing. These classes are not just for new Local Chairmen, and the BLE encourages all Local Chairmen to attend one of these workshops. Registration is on a first come, first served basis with class size limited to the first 25 who register. To register, please contact Ken Kroeger at (216) 272-0986 or kroeger@ble.org.

**JUNE 1-5, 2003... 63rd Annual International Western Convention in Sparks, Nevada** Jeffrey Valentine welcomes BLE and GIA members to Sparks, Nevada, for the 2003 International Western Convention. The 63rd annual IWC will be held at John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel & Casino in Sparks. For reservations, call (800) 648-1177 and ask for the IWC room rate, or identify yourself as a BLE member. A room rate of \$89 per night has been secured from May 30 through June 7. More details to come when available. Those wishing to contact Chairman Valentine may do so by phone, (775) 857-2013, or by e-mail, <jval@accutek.com>.

**JUNE 15-20, 2003... 76th Annual Southeastern Meeting Association in Pigeon Forge, Tenn** Chairman W.M. "Bill" Overton and the members of BLE Division 239 (Knoxville, Tenn.) will host the 2003 SMA at the Grand Resort Hotel & Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. (hotel website: www.grandresorthotel.com). Members can make early-bird reservations by calling: (800) 251-9752. Room rates are \$69.77 per night (plus tax). Attractions include the Great Smokey Mountains national park, Dollywood, and the annual golf tournament. Registration is on June 15; the banquet is on June 19. For details, contact Brother Overton at: (865) 945-5027 or by e-mail, wmo4719@hotmail.com.

**JUNE/JULY 2003... 65th Annual Eastern Union Meeting Association in Baltimore** The 2003 EUMA will coincide with the 175th anniversary of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad museum. EUMA 2003 Arrangements Chairman Fred Cox reports that due to last-minute contract issues with the hotel, however, the 2003 EUMA will not be held at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel, as reported in last month's Newsletter. More details to come when available.

**SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 2, 2003... 68th Annual Southwestern Convention Meeting** Rick Gibbons is Chairman of the 68th annual SWCM, which will be held in Branson, Mo. More details to come when available.

## Advisory Board September Activity

*By action of the delegates at the Fifth Quinquennial Convention, summaries of BLE Advisory Board members' activities are published monthly:*

**International President Don M. Hahs**—International Office: General supervision of BLE activities; General office duties; Fatigue presentation, Washington D.C., to carriers, NTSB, rail labor, AAR, FRA, shortlines (introduction of EIE program); TTD mtgs., D.C.; Mtg. w/ NMB members; Mtg. w/ John Sweeney, AFL-CIO President; Mtg. w/ FRA; Mtg. w/ new president of ASLRRRA; SWCM, Ft. Worth (mtg. and rally); Section 3 mtg., new NMB arbitrators; NMB panel discussion; Various office duties, telephone calls, correspondence.

**First Vice-President & Alternate President Edward W. Rodziewicz**—Assisted President in general operation of ID office; Various correspondence and telephone calls; Holiday; BLE fatigue recommendations in Washington, D.C.; Mtg. w/ TTD Rail Div., D.C.; Mtg. w/ NMB; Illinois State Legislative Board mtg., Chicago; Vacation; SWCM; Advisory Board mtg.

**General Secretary-Treasurer William C. Walpert**—General supervision of BLE financial and record depts.; ID office; BLE Education & Training Dept.; Internal Organizing, Mobilizing & Strategic Planning Dept.; BLE Safety Task Force; Mtgs. w/ vendors and financial institutions; Informational seminar, Greenbo, Ky.; Illinois State Legislative Board mtg., Chicago; SWCM, Fort Worth, Texas.

**Vice-President Paul T. Sorrow**—Assisted NS, GTW and CSXT general committees on various issues; Attended informational mtg. of Division 444; SBA 1063 arbitration hearings; Section 6 notice mtg., Wheeling & Lake Erie; General office duties.

**Vice-President Joseph A. Cassidy Jr.**—General office duties; Study & paperwork; BNSF mtg., K.C.; Mtg. w/ VP McPherson; Mtg. w/ DM&IR G.C. Delano; Mtg. w/ DM&IR grievance cmte.; Mtg. w/ Div. 521 members; Mtg. w/ CSXT G.C. Roberts; Mtg. w/ Div. 581 & 446 members; Prepare for Public Law Board; SWCM, Ft. Worth; Mtg. w/ CSXT-disputes resolution; Mtg. w/ G.C. CSXT-Northern Lines; Mtg. w/ G.C. CSXT-Western Lines.

**Vice-President & U.S. Nat'l Legislative Representative Raymond A. Holmes**—Washington D.C. office; General office duties; Holiday; BLE fatigue mtg.; Mtg. w/ Cong. Sweeney (R-NY), re: Amtrak; TTD Rail Division mtg.; Receptions: Cong. Wexler (D-FL), Cong. Oberstar (D-MN); Mtg. w/ Cong. Sabo (D-MN) and Emerson (R-MO), re: Amtrak; Mtg. w/ FRA; Mtg. w/ John Sweeney, AFL-CIO President; Dinner w/ IBT President Hoffa; Mtg. w/ ASLRRRA; SWCM, Ft. Worth.

**Vice-President Merle W. Geiger Jr.**—Assigned to following properties: KCS; Midsouth; South Rail; Gateway Western; Springfield Terminal; Tex Mex RR; Contract mtgs. w/ Divisions 281 & 282 (Cincinnati & Lima, Ohio), Indiana & Ohio Rwy.; GCofA elections and meetings at Laredo, Texas (Tex-Mex Rwy.); SWCM, Ft. Worth; General office duties, research, paperwork; Vacation.

**Vice-President Stephen D. Speagle**—Office work; Participated in Labor Day parade & attended Division 155 picnic; Mtg. w/ Wabash Hospital administrators, NS; Mtgs. w/ Divisions 502 & 107, Kansas City; Illinois State Legislative Board mtg., Chicago; BNSF on-property negotiations, Ft. Worth; PLB 6345, Decatur; SWCM, Ft. Worth; Railroad Referees Nat'l. Assoc. mtg., Chicago.

**Vice-President E.L. "Lee" Pruitt**—Assisted general chairmen & members of the following properties: UP-Western Region; UP-Central Region; UP-Southern Region; UP-Tacoma Belt; General office duties, telephone paperwork, filing; NMB training and on-property negotiations, Omaha (UP); PLB 6170; SWCM, Ft. Worth.

**Vice-President Richard K. Radek**—ID Office; BLE Decertification Helpline services; Director of Arbitration Dept; National Railroad Adjustment Board (NRAB); Illinois Central; Wisconsin Central; Indiana Harbor Belt; METRA; Belt Rwy. of Chicago; Paducah & Louisville; Chicago Central & Pacific; RCO arbitration case research & prep., Chicago; NRAB general assistance, METRA/various, Chicago; Arbitration case mtg. w/ General Chairmen, Cleveland; Guest speaker, Assn. of Rwy. Communicators; IHB general assistance/negotiations; Railway Supply Assn. mtgs.; Nat'l. Assoc. of Rwy. Referees, Chicago; General assistance/remotely control tech. prep., WC, Madison, Wisc.; FRA Part 240.409 dockets this month: 00-51 (UP), 00-67 (UP), 00-84 (UP), 98-84 (CP), 01-26 (UP), 01-69 (UP), 00-79 (UP), 01-16 (CSX), 01-29 (UP), 01-06 (CSX), 01-27 (UP), 01-18 (UP), 01-23 (UP).

**Vice-President Dale McPherson**—CP Rail; I&M Rail Link; Part. Term. RR; Lonview Portland & Northern; Longview Switching; Indiana RR; M&NA; Utah RR; UP (Eastern District); UP (former CNW); General office duties, telephone, correspondence; Mtg. w/ G.C. Utah RR Co.; CP Rail contract mtgs., G.C. M.D. Priester; Mtgs. w/ G.C. Priester, IMRL sale/claims; DM&IR mtgs., Duluth, Minn.; DM&IR mtgs., Etlac; PLB 6040 preparation & hearings, San Francisco; SWCM, Ft. Worth.

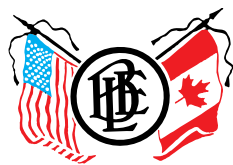
**Vice-President & Canadian Director Gilles Hallé**—Ottawa Office; Canadian Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) hearings, re: Via Rail (three weeks), Toronto; Various arbitration (one week), Montreal.

**Vice-President & National Legislative Representative-Canada T. George Hucker**—Ottawa Office; National Legislative Board-Canada; Fatigue presentation, Washington D.C.; Mtg. w/ Air Canada Pilots Assoc. President, Ottawa; CN Rail senior health & safety mtgs., Montreal; Operation Lifesaver mtg., Kanata; CLC Nat'l. Political Action Cmte. Mtg., Ottawa; VIA Rail SMS audit, initial briefing w/ Transport Canada, Montreal; Attended VIA Rail's preview of Renaissance Train, Ottawa.

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