“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” ~Helen Keller

Hope everyone had a wonderful summer. For most of us, we had different plans than what we ended up doing however I know many of you took advantage of the time at home to catch up on projects around the house. We also had several lodges continuing to work on masks for SMART TD locals which has been greatly appreciated. It’s been nice seeing our members and lodges working with locals to make sure they have PPE (personal protective equipment).

We need to continue to work together as we get closer to elections. If you haven’t checked in with your local or SMART TD State Legislative Directors we recommend you do so to see how you can help with GOTV (get out the vote) efforts locally. We also have several vacancies for our state legislative director positions so if you are interested in being more involved please let either our National Legislative Director, Scott Saunders know or contact our office and we can provide you with additional information. In this issue we have included the SMART TD election endorsements. It’s a great reference for candidate recommendations. This year’s election is of the upmost importance so make sure you vote, vote early or vote by mail. Your vote matters!

On a different note, we wanted to invite all members and lodges to send us your Halloween pictures of you, your kids and family in costumes and your Halloween decorations and the festive foods your family will be doing. We look forward to our annual Halloween potluck at the office with festivities and contests but we had to cancel it however we wanted to continue the tradition this year so we are taking it virtual and want membership participation so SHARE, SHARE, SHARE those pictures with us and we will showcase them for all lodges to enjoy.

In closing I want to strongly encourage lodges that haven’t met virtually to try it. If you need help, our office is happy to assist and would welcome the opportunity to participate in your meeting. Many of us have never met and it’s a great way to connect while staying safe. Take care and let us know if there’s anything we can do for you or your lodge.

Your sister in solidarity,

Kathryn Seegmiller
International President
kseegmiller@smart-union.org
216-521-1161

Table of Contents

| International Secretary Treasurer | 3 |
| National Legislative Director   | 11 |
| Alt. National Legislative Dir    | 13 |
| Scholarship Fund Board Message  | 15 |
| Vice President Corner           | 18 |
| New Members                     | 28 |
| Departed Members                | 28 |
ROSSI VUCINOVICH has been defending railroad workers and their families against the careless practices of the railroads for over 50 years.

Jim Vucinovich, President of Rossi Vucinovich PC, has been leading the charge for the past 30 years, taking the firm into new areas defending railroad whistleblowers and other workers subjected to long term toxic exposure and other acute workplace exposures while successively achieving milestone verdicts and settlements for injured railroad workers and record-breaking verdicts for railroad whistleblowers.
Much of the information here was obtained from Histories of Anchorage, David Reamer and also through varies Railroad articles found during the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic.

On Nov. 11, 1918, news of the armistice that ended World War I reached Alaska. In Anchorage, church and school bells rang in celebration. All train whistles blew with excitement. But the streets remained empty. There were no cheering crowds or crazy parties, no parades or celebrations with grand speakers, nor public celebrations. Instead, residents gathered in small groups within their homes, maybe sharing a prohibited drink or two. Public gatherings, including schools, churches, theaters and bars were banned. Anchorage was under quarantine due to a pandemic.

The Spanish influenza, or Spanish flu, circled the globe from 1918 to 1919. Global death estimates range from 17 to 100 million.

Our COVID-19 crisis of 2020 is strikingly similar to the Spanish flu epidemics in Alaska and everywhere else globally .... There are numerous similarities. Those that stand out to me are the locales and individuals that abandoned practices that safeguarded themselves and those around them that triggered greater deaths in their wake. Some Alaskans would have died of the Spanish flu true regardless, but more died than were necessary. People were told to try remedies and over the counter drugs that only aspirated their conditions and kill many more...

In May 1918, the first news of a particularly deadly outbreak of influenza reached Anchorage, of a “mysterious malady (a disease or ailment) which was raging through Spain in the form and character of the grippe (old-fashioned term for influenza.).” Alaskans commonly described what would today be called flu-like symptoms as a case of the grippe, a French term. An Oct. 25, 1918, Anchorage Daily Times article offered the contemporary understanding of the symptoms: “The disease is characterized
by excessive sneezing, reddening and running of the eyes, running of the nose, chills followed by fever of 101 to 103 degrees, aching back and joints, loss of appetite and a general feeling of disability.”

The Spanish flu spread in waves. The virus of that first wave, in the spring of 1918, while notably contagious, was not especially deadly, more akin to seasonal flu. Primarily due to its isolation, Alaska was not impacted by the first wave, according to David Reamer. But in August 1918, a mutated and deadlier version of the Spanish flu appeared in Europe and began winding its way around the globe. On Oct. 9, 1918, Alaska Gov. Thomas Riggs wrote in his diary of “disturbing reports concerning Spanish influenza.” The pandemic, including its accompanying terror and death, had finally landed in Alaska.

Through late October 1918, Anchorage officials publicly downplayed the significance of the Spanish flu....Does that sound familiar....The Anchorage Daily Times was the loudest mouthpiece for what could be called either damaging propaganda or valid attempts to prevent a panic. On Oct. 21, the Times claimed, “Old Jack Frost sure put the crimp into Spanish influenza that is raging in the states and Anchorage is immune.” On Oct. 29, the newspaper passed along the advice of local doctors:

“Don’t be alarmed over influenza in Anchorage; there is none and what seems so is just ordinary, common every-day grippe.” ..... Oh the lessons of History we must learn.

The doctors were wrong — either misinformed, misguided or lying. Only two days later, on Oct. 31, Halloween, the Times announced that the newly created Anchorage health board had canceled all public gatherings due to the “epidemic of la grippe now prevailing in the community.” All public schools, churches, theaters, bars, everything, closed. Even then, local doctors claimed the virus in Anchorage was not “a virulent (deadly) form.”

After Nov. 11, passenger trains between Anchorage and Seward were canceled. A few days later, a new Territorial official order required all travelers to obtain a "health certificate from some physician that you have already undergone the siege with the flu before you will be permitted to travel". The virus making its way through Anchorage was not the everyday cold or flu as stated by local physicians. The first to die in Anchorage of the Spanish flu was Ed Walker, according to the Historians, who worked as a shoeshine at the Central barbershop. The 30-year-old Walker, an African-American, died Nov. 3.
(Niki Wallace, con’t)

As COVID-19, the virus took the weak. Alex Jack, a “hunchback” Alaska Native youth, died on Nov. 8. The virus took the strong. After the death of “big, strong, robust” John Strom on Nov. 19, locals realized the Spanish Flu was “no respecter of persons,” of one’s muscles or ruggedness. The virus took men and women, including Mary Gold on Nov. 29. Her husband ran a dry goods store on Fourth Avenue. The virus cared little for age, killing both the 50-year-old Chief Stepan and his 18-month-old child.

In 1918, there were neither flu vaccines nor antibiotics. The primary treatment was convalescence and a pain killer such as aspirin. During the outbreak, Loussac’s Drug Store advertised “To Avoid the influenza, take a box of our Cold Tablets and a bottle of Pine Balsam with Menthol and Eucalyptus.” Other local remedies pushed by pharmacists included quinine, Dover’s Powder [a painkiller], hot water bottles, saltwater gargles, cod liver oil and “abundant food.”

At best, these treatments treated the symptoms. At worst, some of these remedies were health risks. The most common active ingredient in cold pills at this time was phenacetin, banned in 1983 as a carcinogen and for damaging kidneys, again a familiar sound for us dealing with COVID now... Dover’s Powder was a cold drug with the active ingredients of an expectorant, opium and morphine. Quinine does not affect flu viruses, but higher dosages caused vomiting. The aspirin regimen suggested by national authorities was enough to increase the amount of fluid in lungs and cause hyperventilation. Thus, aspirin may have prompted more deaths during the pandemic.

By the end of November, the virus had burned out in Anchorage. On Nov. 26, the Anchorage board of health lifted the “flu siege” and permitted the public to gatherings. The local quarantine in Anchorage, described initially as a “precautionary measure,” appeared to work. While 28 people died in Anchorage that month, no subsequent deaths in town were linked to the Spanish flu. Elsewhere in Alaska, the virus raged longer and was more deadly.

The path of the virus in the Mat-Su region stands in great contrast to Anchorage. While the spread of the pandemic was contained for the most part in Anchorage, it was actively spread in Mat-Su. The Alaska Engineering Commission (AEC) pressed forward with the construction of the Alaska Railroad, even as they carried the disease into Alaska Native villages. Per the Alaska Railroad Record, “At times, all the Indians in
HELPING RAILROAD FAMILIES IN THE SOUTHWEST
ARIZONA  COLORADO  NEW MEXICO  TEXAS  CALIFORNIA

www.firstinjurylaw.com

Listed in:

Super Lawyers

THE BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA®

AV
Highest Rating Possible

INJURY LAW
FELA-RAILROAD LAW
And much more:

DEFECTIVE PRODUCTS
AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS
MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE
TRUCKING ACCIDENTS
MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS
NURSING HOME NEGLECT

Lloyd (Chip) Rabb
Past-President, ARLA
Former Locomotive Engineer

Union Designated
1-800-354-3352
ATTORNEYS@FIRSTINJURYLAW.COM

Matthew Rabb
Attorney
Member-Az Trial Laywer’s Assoc.
some of the villages were down with the illness, and the sick were cared for and the dead buried by Commission employees.”

The Alaska Railroad Record is a dispassionate witness according to David Reamer. In November 1918, it noted that “construction work was materially retarded” due to the pervasiveness of the Spanish Flu amongst both area Alaska Natives and railroad laborers. One Record article is titled “Influenza Epidemic Among Indians Cost Commission More Than $2000.” Of the 28 dead in Anchorage, eight were Alaska Native, and at least 11 of the remaining 20 were AEC employees.

One Ahtna native describes the surroundings....Spanish flu-depopulated village. “They went from village to village finding many of the villagers sick or dead from the flu. He told of rounding a bend and seeing a small boy standing on the bank sobbing. In the background the village appeared deserted. No smoke rose from chimneys, no children playing in the yards, and no campfires burned.” For Mat-Su area Alaska Natives, the Spanish flu was one of a series of post-contact epidemics, from smallpox in the 1830's through polio, scarlet fever, and other outbreaks in the decades to come.

Though the Times claimed Anchorage residents “willingly complied with the regulations imposed,” the reality is that Alaskans everywhere chafed at the restrictions. Territory-wide, businesses, railroads and especially steamship companies, protested that quarantine orders threatened their continued existence. Prominent Alaskans petitioned the governor for travel exemptions. All such petitions were denied.

This resistance is both relatable and deadly. Skagway provides the most illustrative example. On Feb. 21, 1919, Gov. Riggs wrote in his diary, “Skagway today partially lifted its influenza quarantine.” Just more than a month later, on March 25, Riggs wrote, “More influenza. This time it is at Skagway. On
(Niki Wallace, con’t)
the 23rd it broke out with 40 cases yesterday 50 cases and one death. The only doctor in town is
down with it.”

Again, key sources: Alaska Railroad Record reporting, 1918 to 1919. and Anchorage Daily Times
reporting, 1918 to 1919. Historians of Alaska and David Reamer

Wisconsin, were I hail, was not free of this deadly peril... Between September and the end of
December 1918, influenza and related pneumonia debilitated almost 103,000 Wisconsin residents
and killed 8,459 — approximately 7,500 more fatalities than would be expected from those causes in
a normal year. To gauge the magnitude of the crisis, consider that more Wisconsin residents died
during the six months of the influenza epidemic than were killed in World War I, the Korean War and
the Vietnam conflict combined. Only the Civil War (1861–1865) and World War II (1941–1945)
claimed more Wisconsin lives. Civil war: 3,794 were killed in action or mortally wounded, 8,022 died
disease, and 400 were killed in accidents. The total mortality was 12,216 men, about 13.4 percent
of total enlistments. World War II : 8,390 military lives in World War II....

I wanted this article to be
more about the impact the
railways had with COVID-19
and the Influenza flu of 1918-
1919 but details about how
railroads working through the
1918 crisis is hard to find. But
it’s clear they were in the thick
of it, with hundreds of
thousands of their
employees—train crews,
ticket agents, sleeping-car
porters, shop forces—out on the front lines. The cities, country side stops, the countless
passengers traveling all across the States, and as the word "pandemic" implies: pan dem ic, adjective,
(of a disease) prevalent over a whole country or the world....it's clear were the impact was in regards
to travel, the spread and the rail workers.

There is an interesting note here I found. The aftermath of the 1918-1919 pandemic seem to
increased ridership.

In 1920, passenger numbers increased on the Canadian Pacific Railway passenger trains from 14.4
million to 16.9 million.
Niki Wallace, con’t

South of the border, the number of rail passengers increased from 1.1 billion in 1918 to 1.27 billion in 1920. There appears to be a light at the end of the "tunnel"........ Stay well, stay safe.

With great respect and solidarity,

Denise (Niki) Wallace
International Secretary/Treasurer
dwallace@smart-union.org
216-521-2522 Office
715-493-6850 Cell

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world." Mahatma Gandhi

"When the Covid Crisis is over and we are in the After Times there are going to be some major changes in the societal landscape. Changes also happened at the end of the Spanish Flu one hundred years ago when it was realized that while mortalities were high with the poor population, infectious diseases need to be tackled on a community level. This led to public health strategies, disease surveillance, and the concept of universal health care.” Sandy James Planner
THE YOUNGDAHL LAW FIRM, P.C.

DESIGNATED S.M.A.R.T. Legal Counsel

4203 Montrose Blvd., Suite 280, Houston, TX 77006
866-996-0750
www.youngdahl.com

Proudly Serving Railroaders and Their Families
for more than 65 years

---

Naumes Law Group

2 Granite Avenue, Suite 425
Milton, MA 02186
844-826-8445
617-227-8444

www.naumeslaw.com

Christopher C. Naumes  Robert T. Naumes, Sr.  Designated Legal Counsel
We are now less than 50 days from the November 3rd presidential election. What have you done to get involved? I know you have probably heard it before, but this is one the most, if not THE most important election of our lives.

Social media, the Main stream media, and even family and friends are all riddled with opinions of who the next president should be. Have you ever asked them why? It’s usually some unfounded reason that really has nothing to do with policy or your job. But, let me be very clear… When you vote, it is paramount that you keep policy and your job in the forefront of your mind. I can promise you this: there is one candidate that supports you, there is one that does not. I have included a chart for easy comparison to help you decide who represents your best interests.

I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to vote. Also keep in mind many local and state elections are happening at the same time. Educate yourself on the candidates. Visit their websites. Ask them questions. If you need help figuring out how to do that, I am happy to help you. I also encourage you to host a local GOTV campaign event. I can send you a “get started kit” that tells you everything you need to know on how to have one. PLEASE contact me to help.. no matter where you are. I am here for YOU.

In Solidarity,

Scott Saunders Jr
National Legislative Director
ScottSaundersJr@gmail.com
512-304-8411
Facebook: Smart- TD Auxiliary

---

### Joe Biden
- Supports our apprenticeship programs and will fight to protect them.
- Supports two-person crews.
- Will fight for transit operator safety.
- Will fight to protect pensions and retirement security.
- Will strengthen OSHA, FRA and FTA with a priority in workplace safety.
- Believes that Union workers should build American infrastructure, as well as manufacture the products that go into it.
- Opposes cross-border operations, agreeing that they are unsafe and unfair.
- Will appoint labor-friendly judges to protect those who need it most.
- Has a solid, labor-friendly voting record on Amtrak, including funding (he is literally known as “Amtrak Joe”).
- Understands the value of collective bargaining.
- Stands behind project labor agreements and prevailing wage.
- Will fight to end “right to work” laws.
- Wants to rebuild the middle class the same way that it was built, through the creation of good paying Union jobs.
- Desires to “spark the second great railroad revolution” (his words).

### Donald Trump
- Created the Industry Related Apprenticeship Programs to undermine our traditional apprentice programs.
- His FRA Administrator, Ron Batory, killed the pending two-person crew rule.
- Proposed a budget that would cut federal pensions.
- His OSHA has been non-existent, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Rolled back overtime protections.
- Made it easier for Wall Street firms to rip off workers’ 401(k)s.
- Would sign national “right to work” laws.
- Appointed Northern Texas District judge, Mark Pitman, who ruled in favor of the railroads to break the moratoriums on our crew consist agreements.
- Limited federal workers’ time and ability to conduct official union business.
- Appointed anti-labor board members to the National Labor Relations Board.
- Gave employers the ability to self-investigate their own employees’ alleged wage and hour violations.
- The Trump tax cuts eliminated a vast number of deductions for work related expenses.
- Proposed budgets that would slash funding for Amtrak and the Railroad Retirement Board.
JERRY SCHLICHTER
SMART DESIGNATED LEGAL COUNSEL

SCHLICHTER
BOGARD & DENTON

Attorneys at Law

100 South 4th Street, Suite 1200
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
800/873-5297
Toll Free Anywhere

www.uselaws.com

THE LAW FIRM OF
JONES GRANGER
and
MARC A. ZITO, SMART-TD
DESIGNATED LEGAL COUNSEL

ARE PLEASSED TO SUPPORT THE
SMART TD AUXILIARY
NEWSLETTER

JONES GRANGER IS GRATEFUL TO THE
SMART TD AUXILIARY MEMBERS FOR
THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT

P.O. Box 4340
Houston, TX 77210
Toll Free: 800.231.3359

www.jonesgranger.com
Where to even start...what a year it has been and still is. At this very moment I await news from those who were in the path of Laura. The news and pictures once again provide that Mother Nature is much stronger than us mere mortals and she is not to be taken lightly. Our thoughts and prayers are with all our union brothers and sisters as they begin the process of cleaning up and rebuilding.

I also hope that each of you have been able to stay safe during the Covid-19 crisis. I never thought retirement would find me shut up in my home. Not exactly what I envisioned. So far, however, my family has managed to follow guidelines and avoid the virus.

I have, however, ventured out for what I personally feel is extremely important. I worked as an election judge during our States’ runoffs in July. I am 66 and share a home with my 86-year young father. I initially thought I’d find someone to take my place, not wanting to put my Dad’s health (or mine) at risk. But so many of our election workers are retirees and many of them knew it would be too risky to be out, so I masked up, carried my own sanitizing supplies and spent my usual 14-hour day at the polls. And in November, I will not hesitate to be there again.

As a Deputy Voter Registrar in my County, I’ve also been asked to help with a voter registration palooza in September, when we will have Deputy Registrars set up all over our County. We’re doing it “Drive-through” style, so no one is out of their vehicle, we will have clip-boards covered by zip-lock bags so they can easily be wiped after each use and give each person a pen to fill out and then keep.

To all our women members, this is the 100th anniversary of women being given the right to vote. Please contact your local party leaders and if you do not want to be out in public, offer to write postcards to voters in your area or state to encourage them to sign up for vote by mail or to support a candidate you believe in. Make sure that every female of voting age you know is a registered voter and then remind them to vote. As Americans we are complacent about voting to say the least, but as women, we must make proud those who came before us and fought for our right to be heard and to vote. In case you missed it, there are those, even other women, who do not believe we should have a voice, that we are not smart enough to be charged with making decisions in who represents us in government. Do not allow our voices to be muffled.

To the wonderful men who have joined our Organization, we thank you and appreciate you. You have wives and daughters, mothers and grandmothers, aunts and cousins. Reach out to them and remind them that quite possibly, your grandmother did not have the right to vote until she was a middle-aged woman. Mine didn’t.

In Solidarity,

Pam Neal
Alt. National Legislative Director
utu393@waco.twcbc.com
254-493-3019
What if you could find an insurance company that:

- Pays the membership back rather than paying stockholders and greedy CEOs
- Provided over 200 college scholarships yearly to the children and grandchildren of members
- Provided up to 100 Trade School scholarships to help build America’s skilled labor force
- Provided Memorial Scholarships to the children of its members who were killed while performing the duties of their trade
- Had benefits designed to meet the unique needs of Union Trade Workers and their families
- Had highly affordable plans and flexible payment options
- Gave thousands of hours of volunteer work and matched member donations for charities in the communities they serve
- Financially Supported Disaster relief to assist Union members and their families in dire times of need
- Paid claims in days, not months
- Was established over 150 years ago by Trade workers like yourself

What if I told you that UTUIA is that insurance company and as a Union member, you had access to some of the best benefits available today? To find out more information as to how we can help you protect your family and yourself, simply go to www.UTUIA.org/information, fill out the form and submit or contact a Field Supervisor Direct. You can find your Field Supervisor at www.utuiia.org/map

I would like more information on UTUIA’s available policies:
- Accident Indemnity
- Accidental Death and Dismemberment
- Cancer Hospital Indemnity
- Life Insurance
- Annuities
- IRAs

Please Print

Full Name
Date of Birth
SMART TD Local
Street Address
City
State
Zip code
Telephone number with area code
☐ Male
☐ Female

Complete and mail to: UTUIA Sales Dept., 24950 Country Club Blvd., Ste. 340, North Olmsted, OH 44070-5333.

HILDEBRAND McLEOd & NELSON
Representing Plaintiffs Since 1926

Successfully representing injured railroad workers and victims of negligence throughout California, the Southwest and the Pacific Northwest for more than 90 years.

- FELA Claims
- Railroad Whistleblower & Retaliation
- Catastrophic & Brain Injury
- Motor Vehicle Accidents & Wrongful Death
- Truck & Commercial Vehicle Accidents
- ADA/Employment Cases

SPEAK WITH A LAWYER: 800-689-7066  www.hmnlaw.com
Auxiliary of the UTU Scholarship Fund News – September 2020

There have been a lot of changes occurring this year that have affected the Scholarship program. Normally we have a raffle during the SMART-TD Region meeting to benefit local charities. The meeting was cancelled so we had no raffle this year. We have no need for nominations to the Scholarship board this year because there are no open positions. Each member of the board is still filling their term.

Donations are appreciated and should be made payable to: Auxiliary of the UTU Scholarship Fund.

Mail to: Rebecca Allgyre
Scholarship Fund Board Treasurer
12503 E. Co Rd 6
Attica OH 44807-9435

RENEWAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2020

Scholarships awarded thru the Auxiliary of the UTU Scholarship Fund may be renewable for up to four (4) continuous years if certain requirements are met. Students must be enrolled full-time and maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average to qualify for the continuous renewal award. Scholarship applications are accepted between January 1st and March 31st. Students receiving new scholarship awards are notified by May 1st. Acceptance or a decline of the award is needed by June 1st. The renewals are notified next and must accept or decline by August 1st. First year acceptance of a scholarship requires a full enrollment confirmation from the college. 2nd thru 4th year acceptance of a renewal scholarship requires a full enrollment confirmation and transcripts from the previous year.

PLEASE NOTE: This year colleges are slower in processing the request for proof of full-time status and or transcripts. If you are aware that your college is not going to meet the October 1st deadline please contact Marilyn Spangler (216) 502-7226 or by email utuauxscholarship@gmail.com.

For the upcoming Fall 2020 term, 41 scholarship renewals and 8 new scholarships have been awarded so far. We are having an unusually difficult time awarding the available scholarships this year. A lot of students are not attending college because of the usual explanations but COVID has caused more to step away from attending college this year. Another difficulty that is a normal obstacle is bad contact information. If we cannot reach the student or family for acceptance of a scholarship, the scholarship must be given to someone else. The easy solution to avoid missing out on a scholarship is to keep your contact information current. Make sure your Lodge has your most recent email, address and phone numbers. The Lodge may delay notifying the Grand Lodge of this information, so to be safe it is recommended that if you have someone applying for a scholarship make sure to send the contact information to the Grand Lodge also. The Grand Lodge can be notified by phone (216) 521-2522 or email dwallace@smart-union.org.

There is a very good chance that your student could be the one drawn from the applications received. Not only because of the small list but also because they could be chosen any of the next three years to replace someone who no longer attends college. When a student completes their education, or does not meet board criteria, the next available alternate is offered the remainder of the scholarship award. Another way of increasing the chance of a scholarship is to send in an application every year that the student has not been awarded one.

PLEASE NOTE: Reminder to Auxiliary Sponsor Members – membership must be retained throughout the duration of the scholarship award.
DID YOU KNOW?

Benefits of Auxiliary Membership

The SMART TD Auxiliary unites families of SMART TD. Also, the Auxiliary educates members on legislative issues affecting them and provides a forum for the exploration and sharing of ideas and information with other SMART TD families.

In addition, Auxiliary membership provides a variety of benefits, discounts and perks through Union Plus (AFL-CIO) such as:

- Computers
- Moving Assistance
- Tires
- Cell Phones & Service
- Entertainment
- Hardship Assistance
- Pet Services
- Credit Counseling
- Low-Cost Loans
- Health Clubs
- Hotel & Rental Cars
- Theme Parks
- Prescription, Dental & Vision
- Tax-Preparation Services
- Scholarships-$500-$4000
- Will and Estate Planning
- Automobile Insurance
- And many, many more

As an Auxiliary member you can register to receive these discounts at unionplus.org

STAND UNITED FOR TWO-PERSON CREWS!
Safety First!
Contact your legislators now! Ask them to support Two-Person Crews!
Ridge & Downes extends its best wishes to the SMART - Transportation Division’s members & their families.

The Law Firm of Ridge & Downes is dedicated to providing legal services to the injured in FELA and all types of personal injury and workers' compensation claims.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daniel J. Downes</th>
<th>Trial Attorneys</th>
<th>Investigators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| FELA Designated Legal Counsel | James M. Ridge  
Karin K. Connelly  
Gerald W. Napleton | Amylee Hogan Simonovich  
James T. Farnan  
Michael B. Gunzburg  
James F. Heri | “Johnny Mike” Edwards  
Michael Collins |

HOWARD A. SPIER, ESQ.  
Designated Legal Counsel  
ROSSMAN BAUMBERGER REBOSO & SPIER  
CATASTROPIC INJURY & WRONGFUL DEATH  

FORMER PRESIDENT OF  
ACADEMY OF RAIL LABOR ATTORNEYS  
MEMBER OF  
American Board of Trial Advocates  
NAMED A TOP-RATED ATTORNEY ON  
Super Lawyers
Remember when a friend would greet you with "Hey! How you doin'? What's goin' on?" And your response would be "Hi! Good! The usual." Wow, those were the days! Yeah, the good ol' days when your friend would know what you meant by 'the usual'. These days my response might be 'Hi, I'm stressed and The unusual'.

It seems 2020 gets more and more unusual every day. Nothing is like it used to be. The only constant is that my Railroad Retirement check faithfully shows up in my bank account on the 1st of every month. Thank goodness for that.

Normally fall is my favorite time of year. This year I'm not so sure about that. Back to school? Maybe-maybe not. Cooler temperatures? Maybe-maybe not. Columbus Day? I don't know, didn't he en-slave indigenous people? Halloween? We've certainly been practicing for it by wearing masks. Election Day? VOTE-ballot by mail or polling place? Thanksgiving? My favorite holiday. Will we all Gather Together or separately? No wonder I'm so stressed!

The other day I heard someone questioning whether Social Security was a Socialist program. Does that mean Railroad Retirement is Socialist too? Does that mean I'm a Socialist? Sometimes I think the world is making me crazy! No wonder I'm so stressed!

But hold on here. I know Railroad Retirement was developed in 1936 even before Social Security. And I know that employers and employees in Railroad Retirement and Social Security both contribute money to fund these programs. I did some research and found that in 1955 the average railroad employment was 1,239,000 people. In 2019 it was 214,000 people. Holy Smokes! That's a dramatic decline in 65 years. Primarily due to technological innovation instituted. For example moving from steam locomotives to diesel. Yet, even with that remarkable reduction in the number of people employed in the rail industry, Labor and Management have had a vested interest in the continued solvency of Railroad Retirement. Through Legislative changes enacted in bi-partisan agreements the Railroad Retirement system continues to provide beneficial results for all concerned.

So, how is it going now? Well, the Railroad Retirement Board issues a report each year projecting the solvency of the system. The 2020 Report states " the Railroad Retirement System will experience no cash flow problems during the next 25 years." And assets stand at $27.9 Billion. you can access this information at RRB.GOV. Finally, some good news this fall!

It seems our ability as railroaders to change, improvise and adapt has provided me and my family and in turn you and your family upon your retirement a constant benefit that you can rely on. Due on the 1st of each month, you can count on it, as usual.
Representing railroad workers and their families for over 30 years throughout the Eastern United States in claims brought under the Federal Employers’ Liability Act and the Federal Rail Safety Act.

Throughout the course of their career, Bob Myers and Mike Olley have secured numerous seven figure verdicts and settlements for both traumatic injury and occupational injury claims resulting from unsafe workplaces, defective and unsafe equipment and repetitive stress injuries as well as asbestos and diesel fume exposure.

In addition to their railroad practice, they have also represented railroad workers, their families and friends in all types of personal injury actions due to defective products, workplace injuries, motor vehicle accidents and medical malpractice.
In these exceptional and virulent times, my front yard has kept me sane. It didn’t start out as such. At first, it was a chore, a necessity. Working from home, I’d be staring out the office window and all I saw were bare patches of dried out soil and weeds. I think we can learn a lot from weeds, how is it that they can thrive anywhere? How are they so adaptable? Anyway, I digress. Those weeds represented the many things that get filed away under “just not enough time in the day.” My mission was to pull those weeds. Get rid of them the right way, the permanent way—so that I could enjoy my view without additional stress.

I started by going out in the mornings, about an hour and a half before I started working. I added some time during lunch if isn’t wasn’t too hot, and then volunteered my daughter to help me finish it up over the weekend. It was a work in progress to be sure. Right after we pulled the weeds, new sprouts popped up within days. I fought back with the biggest pails of Preen and bags of pre-emergent corn gluten that I could find. After months of weekly weed pulling and the liberal sprinkling of pre-emergent, we were finally winning. I then started moving around plants of years past that just didn’t look happy where they were. They deserved to be as happy as the weeds, right?! As my little green (or sometime yellowing) friends got moved around, I noticed additional bare spaces that could use some brightening up. About 80% of my “garden” is on a hillside, so sowing seeds and adding more plants made sense—it was an investment in the prevention of “soil erosion!” My husband wasn’t completely on board, his only focus is the lawn. However, we have a lot more people walking through our neighborhood these days and, unknowingly, many were following my progress (our neighborhood is pretty widespread and seeing neighbors up close isn’t a usual occurrence.) As I made more headway, they started commenting on my progress. Ron reluctantly reported that he couldn’t get the lawn mowed because people were stopping to talk to him about “his wife’s garden.” As a result, he now knows most of our neighbors and (almost) doesn’t need to ask me their names anymore. 😊 I was happy to learn that my unexpectedly therapeutic project inadvertently brought joy to others in the process.

I love flowers and all of the creatures they attract. As a result, over the years I’ve developed a deep love for gardening (which doesn’t necessarily include weeding.) Over the years I let myself get pulled away from that, from what had once been such a large part of me. I don’t know what I would have done these last six months if I didn’t have something that required my care, and that I truly enjoyed doing. I threw myself into creating order, made progress, devoted myself to health and beautification and, most importantly, witnessed growth—in my garden and myself.

Please take this time to do something you love—whether it’s something that you never had time for, or something that you have forgotten to make time for. Our mental and physical health, and that of
(Terri Ingerick, con’t)
our friends and families, are so valuable. Please don’t forget to invest in yourself – and share that success with others.

Lots and lots of sisterly and brotherly love. Thinking of you all.
Terri
Ben B. Saunders was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. Upon completing his undergraduate studies in Pre-Med at Louisiana State University, he attended Loyola University School of Law where he received his Juris Doctor degree. At law school he became the Managing Editor of the Loyola Law Review aside from writing articles for the publication.

He began trying cases for injured railroad workers under FELA in 1974 as a plaintiff's attorney, when he tried his first FELA case before a federal jury in the United States District Court of New Orleans. The jury rendered a verdict for the plaintiff, an LSU college student, who had serious brain damage working as a signalman at the railroad for a summer job.

Since 1975, he has concentrated in the FELA field of practice. For over 40 years, he has tried FELA cases from New Orleans, Louisiana to West Palm Beach, Florida through Jacksonville, Savannah, Charleston, Raleigh to Washington, D.C. He has obtained half million to multi-million dollar results on cases in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia Texas & Washington D.C.

Over the last 25 years, he has taught FELA Law at seminars and meetings to both attorneys and union railroad workers. He authored "Preparing the Plaintiff for Direct Examination in a FELA Case," which was published in *Trial Magazine* in March 1994. He has been a Railroad Law lecturer at ATLA (Association of Trial Lawyers of America) Railroad Law Section CLE programs since 1993. In 1994, he served as Chairman of the ATLA Railroad Law Section. He also completed the Harvard Law School Negotiation Project for Lawyers in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He has spoken on the New Orleans Bar Association television program, *It's the Law*. He wrote the often quoted "Truth Wins Lawsuits" article for a NOBA Legal Seminar. He was asked to testify as an expert in FELA at Lloyds's of London in England on how to evaluate an injury sustained by a railroad worker.

He has served as Chairman of the Designated Legal Counsel for the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE) from 1999-2002. While serving as Chairman of the Designated Legal Counsel for the BLE, he published the Rules of Conduct for its Designated Legal Counsel Program. He was also President of the American Rail Labor Attorneys (ARLA) from 1999-2000. He is a permanent member of the Past President's Advisory Committee.

He is a member of the New Orleans, Louisiana State, Federal, and American Bar Associations, as well as the American Association for Justice and Louisiana Trial Lawyers, now LAJ where he served on the Board of Governors from 1992-1997. He has been listed as one of the National Trial Lawyers Top 100 and in Best Lawyers of America since 1999, and New Orleans Magazine has listed him as one of the Best Lawyers in New Orleans in the field of Railroad Law since 2000.

He also engages in the practice of Maritime Law (Jones Act) and Aviation Law where he was invited to lecture at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University January 2005.

**Areas of Practice**

- Railroad (F.E.L.A.)
- Admiralty & Maritime Law
- Personal Injury – Plaintiff
- Jones Act
- Aviation
- Litigation & Appeals
GERALYN GARDNER
VICE PRESIDENT DISTRICT 4
419-217-5492 | geralyn_g40@yahoo.com

DISTRICT 4 STATES: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia

Geralyn wanted to give her husband the opportunity to write in her stead since there is the upcoming election and Stu was Ohio State Legislative Director until he retired earlier this year. Stu is also an Auxiliary member.

Dear SMART-TD Auxiliary members,

This letter that I write to you, is a topic that is full of emotions both good and bad, positive and negative, a topic that will elicit in most people, very strong feelings. The topic I refer to is the upcoming 2020 Election on November 3, 2020.

I believe that it is the duty of every SMART-TD member, Auxiliary member, and family members to vote. It is a Right as a United State Citizen to exercise this cherished franchise that so many of our sons & daughters and forefathers have fought and died to defend.

I believe that an educated voter researches those candidates that are running for office, asking are they:

1. Honest and truthful concerning their stance on import issues. ?
2. Does this candidate support the legislative issues that support my (spouse) job in the railroad industry?
3. Do they support two-person train crews?
4. Do they support Railroad Retirement?
5. Are they responsive to their constituent’s wants and needs?
6. Do they support women’s rights, and those of all people?

If you need further information on those candidates in your District, please contact your State Legislative Director or the SMART-TD National Legislative Director – Greg Hynes, or Alternate Jared Cassity in Washington, DC.

I urge you talk to your family to vote. Consider using the Early Voting options – skip the long line on Election Day. Better yet, request an Absentee Ballot from your Secretary of State Office in your state. With all of the turmoil and chaos related to the COVID 19 Pandemic, voting by mail is a safe and reliable way to cast your important vote.

Since 1998 – the State of Oregon does a full vote by mail, voters approved the method for all elections in a referendum, voting 69 percent in favor of the option, according to the network. Oregon is one of five states with full vote-by-mail systems, which have been touted by proponents as evidence it can be successfully implemented. “It’s very secure, its very cost-effective, and it’s
(Geralyn Gardner, cont’t)

extremely accessible to our voters. It’s one of the reasons we have one of the highest voter turnouts in the entire country. Because folks like to vote from their kitchen tables, it’s very, very accessible,” Gov. Kate Brown (D) said.

Please do not get wrapped up in the hot button rhetoric that are being used by some Candidates to promote fear:

1. Mail in Ballots are unsafe.
2. Gun control – they are coming after your guns.
3. Making cuts to AmTrak
4. Abortion

This is just a few Hot Button Topics that has intention to stir those feelings of doubt. Please make an educated vote, based upon you and your families needs, not based upon hot button issues.

I believe that the most important criteria in voting is: vote for those candidates that will best support your pocket book/job and Railroad Retirement!

Fraternally yours,

Stu Gardner
Retired Ohio State Legislative Director
SMART-TD Aux. Lodge 225

NORA GRUTZIUS
VICE PRESIDENT DISTRICT 5
708-805-1147 | nora.grutzius@gmail.com
DISTRICT 5 STATES: Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin

As the new school year begins, our girl scouting season begins as well. I still hear this today, “Do they still have Girl Scouts?” Like it’s an old fashion organization long gone. Girl Scouts is 108 years old, close to how long our Auxiliary has been around, and like our Auxiliary, Girl Scouts is constantly evolving. There are amazing opportunities in the Girl Scouts of today, like world travel, service work, Camp CEO, STEM programs are constantly being added, Civic Engagement, Basics of Inclusion, entrepreneurship, cybersecurity, they have added 24 new badge programs for girls to learn and grow. Among those 9 badges are automotive engineering. What an exciting world to live in today’s girl scouts!
Girl Scouts, schools, many jobs, all face the confusion about meeting in person versus virtually. We all face anxiety, but our isolated children do not get to experience that first year of high school, or first year of college, some are not even seeing friends they are so isolated. Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana is continuing to meet either in person with guidelines or via Zoom meetings. Troops are encouraged to meet outside with masks and social distancing, as we have so many programs that work with getting girls outside. Girls who cannot meet in person have several options for virtual troops or participating in age level events and programs online. Girl Scouts is working hard to create programming for this year to keep girls involved virtually, with their program, “Girl Scouts from Home”. It is crucial to keep girls involved during this pandemic as children are so isolated and have anxiety. Most schools are meeting virtually, keeping students still isolated.

This past week I met with my troop of girls at my house. I had to have the parents sign waivers if they were to allow girls to meet. All girls were allowed. They wore masks and we tried our best to keep a distance. We have been learning about building fires for years, so each girl made their own fire in a small mini pie tin after going over the safety rules of fire building. It was fun and the mini fires were so cool!

We then took a bike ride to our village community garden to harvest any vegetables we could. We built the garden 3 years ago along with the help of donations from our community. The girls have learned about every stage of gardening. They participated in building a bridge for the garden so when girls bridge to the next level of girl scouting, we would have a permanent bridge in our town to have their ceremony. The girls added soil and peat and turned the dirt. They planted, weeded, watered, and harvested.

Back at my house, we built a larger bonfire and roasted hot dogs and marshmallows while watching the Premier of the movie, “Mulan “on a large outdoor screen. Mulan was an awesome movie showing the girls a strong female character who was courageous, brave, and true. The very same qualities we try to instill in our girls. Girl Scouting is building girls of courage, confidence, and character, to make the world a better place. Afterall, we are creating the leaders of tomorrow!

The girls had such an awesome time getting back together with old friends. Catching up on each other’s lives, planning the year, talking about music and movies. Our troop consists of girls from different backgrounds and communities. Many of them have been together for 6 years in this troop. Their plans for this year are to fish at a small local lake with family. We can easily keep our social distancing spreading out around part of a lake. To go hiking in some pretty areas around our home, we have many forest preserves, and maybe to travel to a state park which is about an hour away, called, “Starved Rock”, with beautiful tall rock formations, the Illinois River, waterfalls, and sometimes you can spot eagles flying around in the sky. To continue learning about outdoor skills, and hopefully catch up on some projects we started last year, like our family cookbook. To make ornaments to add to a Christmas tree at our wonderful Brookfield Zoo south of Chicago, and to go visit! One of our challenges is that we cannot carpool. So, girls must be dropped off wherever we meet. We would love to camp, but as of now we are not yet ready to figure out that as an organization. For now, we will try to continue meeting outside until the weather in Chicago turns bitter cold. Last year the stay at home
To say that summer 2020 was not normal would be an understatement. Covid has definitely had an effect on our usual summer trips and outings but it has allowed us to spend time with our families and loved ones—some good days—some not so good, but in the end family keeps us together. Things have not been normal, but when has anything in a transportation family been normal. We have dealt with life not being “normal” throughout our lives—Birthdays celebrated whenever Mom or Dad got home from work. Christmas celebrated early or late due to working holidays—but we made it through because we had family—each person doing his or her part and more to make things work.

Covid has probably challenged your cooking and dining skills. We had already been cooking more at home since my husband, Kenny, had aortic valve replacement in December. So we have been on a low sodium, low cholesterol, and consistent carb diet since surgery—try finding that at a restaurant! Have you ever looked your daily sodium intake? The recommended daily allowance is 1500-2000 mg—that is total not just the saltshaker—most of us eat about 6000 mg a day! While Covid is in the news every day, heart disease, diabetes and other chronic illnesses are still affecting our lives. Be sure to keep healthy! It has been a challenge to cook low sodium but always willing to accept a challenge, we have found many new recipes thanks to Mr. Google!
We are honored to represent the members of SMART and their families.

Cogan & Power are experienced and dedicated trial attorneys that are committed to providing the highest level of legal representation available. The Attorneys at Cogan & Power prioritize meaningful and consistent client communications. Our firm believes in a collaborative approach to legal representation, which allows us to provide our clients with a wide breadth of experience and skill, but maintain a small-firm level of client service and attention.
(Carol Menges, con’t)
As always, along the way, God provides us with special gifts and blessings that light up our lives. We welcomed grandchild number 12-Caroline Marie on August 14th. She is such a sweet gift and so full of life—she raised her head off Mom’s shoulder and rolled over on day one! Another strong Menges woman—watch out world!

In times like this the little things make a big difference. Those phone calls to check on loved ones or friends. The simple task of wearing a mask to protect our loved ones. Taking the extra time to cooking a meal when we are tired and we would just love to go to our favorite restaurant. The Sunday drives in the car to nowhere! Remember it is family that makes us strong and keeps us together.

Remember to vote this election year—look at the candidates that will protect our retirement system and social security and the transportation jobs of those who continue to work and make our retirement systems grow. There are clear choices to make-do not vote against yourself! Pray often-Love always!

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD
PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINARS

Pre-Retirement Seminars have been canceled for the remainder of 2020. In the meantime to stay informed it's recommended to review seminar material. which can be found online at: www.rrb.gov

SELECT “Our Agency” under the menu tab

then “Office of the Labor Member”

then “Educational Material”

NEW MEMBERS

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Karen Cashin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>398</td>
<td>Allen Tweddle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>398</td>
<td>Debbie Dintenfass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DEPARTED MEMBERS

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Gladys Aufdenberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>723</td>
<td>Frances Tracey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST

Save a tree while saving the Auxiliary some money. There are two ways to join. Register online at www.smarttdauxiliary.org or email us at: auxiliary_td@smart-union.org
Petro Law Firm is pleased to support SMART and its Auxiliary. Working for a railroad has always been dangerous. The laws that apply to railroad workers are numerous and complicated. As such, it is important for railroad employees to consult and retain knowledgeable and experienced attorneys. Your Designated Legal Counsel (DLC) program was designed to provide access to such attorneys. Consults are free and DLC are not paid unless you get paid. Please consider DLC:

F. Daniel Petro  
3400 W. Stonegate Blvd Suite 2360  
Arlington Hts., IL 60005  
(800) 472-5729  
dan@petrofelalaw.com
WE USUALLY HAVE A SPOOKTACULAR HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION BUT THIS YEAR IS DIFFERENT SO WE ARE ASKING THAT YOU SEND US YOUR PICTURES OF COSTUMES, DECORATIONS AND FESTIVE FOOD.

WE WILL BE SHOWCASING THEM FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY

OPENING A LODGE

Minimum of 10 members
Railroad spouses/family members

Pre-Meeting planning
Discuss Lodge goals
Connect with SMART TD Local

Contact Grand Lodge
Request a Charter

GOT NEWS?

Do you have some exciting news that you’d like to share? It’s an excellent way to share activities and ideas with other lodges and members.

Please send articles and/or pictures to auxiliary_td@smart-union.org

Find us on social media!

SMARTTDAuxiliary
SMARTTDAux
SMART TD Auxiliary
SMARTTDAux
SMART TD Auxiliary
We are a nationally recognized personal injury firm with more than half a century experience representing injured railroad workers throughout the country.

Our attorneys routinely serve clients throughout the Midwest and have successfully tried hundreds of cases ranging from automobile accidents to catastrophic worker injuries and death. Hunegs, LeNeave & Kvas has earned the trust and recommendation of many of the nation’s leading unions.

Our union designations are your assurance of skilled and experienced counsel with a commitment to aggressively pursuing your interests. We are here to help you and your family.

The United States Supreme Court has cautioned railroad workers that:

"Injured workers or their families often fall prey on one hand to persuasive claims adjusters eager to gain a quick and cheap settlement for their railroad employers, or on the other to lawyers either not competent to try these lawsuits against the able railroad counsel or too willing to settle a case for a quick dollar."

"Laymen cannot be expected to know how to protect their rights when dealing with practiced and carefully counseled adversaries."

Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen v. Virginia, 84 S. Ct. 1113 (1964)
**U.S. Representative, Senate**

**House of Representatives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mark Kelly (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Diana DeGette (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Maxine Waters (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Joe Neguse (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Elizabeth Esty (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lisa Blunt Rochester (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Val Demings (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lucy McBath (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Colleen Hanabusa (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Robin Kelly (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Steve Buyer (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dave Loebsack (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Roger Marshall (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>James Comer (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Garret Graves (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Damen DYC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>