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SMART NEWS

TRANSPORTATION DIVISION
A U X I L I A R Y

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



International President Column

Hello all!

A lots been going on at Grand Lodge. To start with, we're excited to announce we've officially nailed down our convention for this summer. We weren't sure if we were going to be able to hold convention given the ups and downs of the pandemic. In addition, we've had a few hiccups along the way however we're happy to announce our convention will be happening and it'll be at the Hilton Cleveland Downtown July 27th and 28th. Similar to our last convention we were able to trim the convention down and it'll be 2 days and based off last convention we feel this is doable.

We'll be reaching out all the lodge delegates soon to confirm your eligibility to attend and that you'll be able to attend. If you're unable to attend, now is a good opportunity to touch base with the alternate so

continued

IN THIS ISSUE

CONVENTION 5

PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINARS 7

VICE PRESIDENT CORNER 8

NEW MEMBERS 16

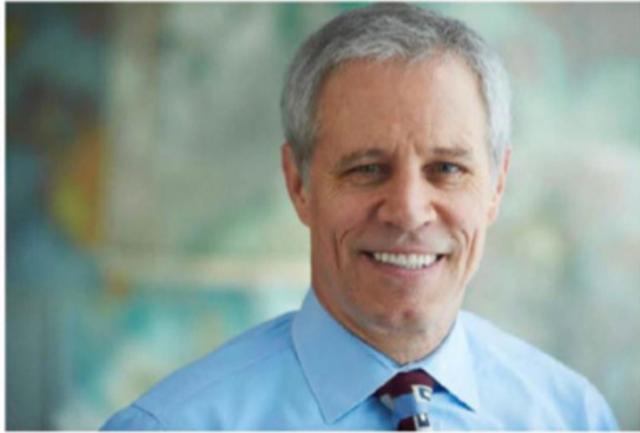
NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR 20

SCHOLARSHIP FUND BOARD 23

Railroad Law - Injuries and Whistleblower Cases

Matt Darby, Esquire Darby Law Group, LLC

*Designated Legal Counsel and Board Member -
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JERRY SCHLICHTER
SMART DESIGNATED LEGAL COUNSEL



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International President Column continued

they can start thinking about and planning to attend in your absence.

The next big news we wanted to share is that we've moved. We've been busy preparing and packing for the move and didn't have much time as you can see since we didn't know at the time of our last newsletter that this was coming and we've already moved and are beginning to settle in. We still have a lot to unpack and organize while we prepare for the upcoming convention. Please make note of our new address which is:

8001 Sweet Valley Drive, Suite 15
Valley View, OH 44125

The reason for the move is the lease was coming up for SMART TD and they weren't able to come to an equitable agreement with the building management and they had a challenging time finding a new location that would work. With everything going on with the move and working on the convention arrangements we fell a little behind in getting this issue of the newsletter out which we apologize for.

Corresponds will be forwarded to the new office during this transition but to prevent any delays please make note of the new address.

Fortunately we'd already started offering more options for doing things online such as paying

assessments, updating membership info, completing reports and other treasurer items in addition to offering an option to become a member.

We also wanted to make another announcement, if you hadn't seen or heard about it already, we'll be participating in an informational protest later this month in Omaha at the annual Berkshire Hathaway Shareholder meeting. We'd love to have as much support and solidarity as possible to help raise awareness to the BNSF stockholders as they attend their annual meeting. You can find more information in our Facebook group or feel free to reach out for more details.

One last announcement, the SMART TD region meeting is scheduled for August 8th-10th in San Francisco so mark your calendars for that. We'd love to see you there. Until our next newsletter, stay safe and as always, let us know if there's anything we can help you or your lodge with.

Your sister in solidarity,

Kathryn Seegmiller

International President

kseegmiller@smart-union.org

216-521-1161 office | 801-347-8120 cell



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CONVENTION

JULY 27TH AND 28TH, 2022



Hilton

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THIRTEENTH QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION



Vice Presidents and Committee Members arrive



Delegates arrive - memorial service and welcome reception



Convention Day 1



Convention Day 2 - President's Dinner



Everyone departs for home

GOT NEWS?



Have news to share with other lodges?

Send articles and pictures to
auxiliary_td@smart-union.org



WE'VE MOVED



Our new address is:

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UNITED WE STAND DIVIDED WE FALL



RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

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- then select "Pre-Retirement Seminar"
- other educational materials can be found on their website as well •

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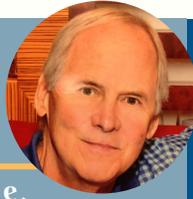


Vice President Corner

Steve Fritter

Vice President District 2

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District 2: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington D.C.

Reflecting on 36 years of railroading (at least 1/3 of it spent away from home) I realize how fortunate I am to have had a spouse willing to accept the responsibility of handling everything and anything that happened while I was away at work. I know this is not unusual. After all, marriage is a partnership we committed to intentionally. Young couples, however, may not know the work schedule of those beginning their railroading career often take them out of town for days or weeks at a time. This way of living does not suit everyone. Most railroaders start out working on the extra board. Being subject to call as needed. It could, quite possibly, take years to gain a regular assignment. The uncertainty of when and for how long the extra board employee is away from home creates obstacles some couples may not overcome. A life of being on call means planning, scheduling and setting goals, in time, are always a struggle for the family. It creates a spontaneous home life when together and can be lonely for the spouse at home when separate. These unique aspects of railroading

continued VP Corner

WANT TO OPEN A LODGE?

- **It only takes 10 members**

members can be active or retired SMART TD members, their family (age 16 yrs & older) or their spouse

- **Hold a pre-meeting to discuss lodge goals and connect with the SMART TD local**
- **Contact Grand Lodge and request a charter**

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family life and the stress that accompanies them demands a support system that works. That is why I am grateful for the support of my spouse through all these years. And that is why I believe the Auxiliary has an important role to play. As a way to connect people in need of the support necessary. To create bonds, endure difficulties and learn to stand in strength individually and together.

Terri Ingerick

Vice President District 3

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District 3: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia



I don't know if anyone else started a vegetable garden over the last two years, but I did! I have been getting reminders popping up on my calendar, signaling that it's time to start looking ahead, and daydreaming about spring, mixed greens and ripe tomatoes.

I thought I'd share a quick list of the seeds you should be thinking about starting inside, if you like to start them yourself and transplant nice healthy plants of the variety of your choice as soon as the weather allows.

February: Oregano, thyme and cilantro

March: Artichokes, peppers, tomatoes, radishes, kale, sage and basil

Mid-March: lettuce and swiss chard

April: Dill, chives, parsley, arugula and zucchini

I hope this list helps your garden planning. Don't forget to start your seeds in succession 2-4 weeks apart so that you always have fresh veggies on the way! ~Enjoy!

Geralyn Gardner

Vice President District 4

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District 4: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia



My hometown, Bellevue, OH, has several places of interest to go and visit. I have already talked about the Mad River Railroad Museum, today I will talk about the Sorrowful Mother Shrine that is 7 miles south of Bellevue on St. Rt. 269.

The Sorrowful Mother Shrine is an inspiring place of prayer where God and nature touch. Wild flowers and planted flowerbeds mingle in the 120 acres of woods and lawns. The center of the Shrine is the Sorrowful Mother Chapel.



The Sorrowful Mother Shrine is one of the oldest places of pilgrimage dedicated to the Blessed Mother in the Midwest and east of the Mississippi River in the U.S.A. The Missionaries of the Precious Blood have operated the Shrine since it was founded by Fr. Francis deSales Brunner in 1850. Fr. Francis de Sales Brunner built on this site a small red brick chapel in honor of the Sorrowful Mother. He did this because of his great devotion to Mary who safely guided him,



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along with other priests, from Germany and Switzerland to the United States. The shrine soon became the centerpiece of the many missions and parishes Fr. Brunner founded to



minister to the newly arrived German Catholic settlers in northwest Ohio. The shrine quickly became a

place where people could come and “stand still and feel the presence of God.”

In 1870, a second and larger chapel was constructed replacing the original. During those years (and continuing today) pilgrims came seeking physical healings and spiritual guidance, help and comfort through the intercession of the Sorrowful Mother.



On August 15th, 1912, the feast of the Assumption, the shrine chapel burned, destroying most of the building. With it, the original wood carved statue of the Sorrowful Mother that Fr. Brunner brought from



Germany also burned. Within two years, the shrine chapel was rebuilt. It features paintings of the Seven Sorrows of Mary and a newly refurbished statue of the Sorrowful Mother holding the Body of her

Son. The stained glass windows portray

Mary’s role in the life of the Church as expressed in the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and Sorrowful Mother. The stained glass windows portray Mary’s role in the life of the Church as expressed in the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and Sorrowful Mother. Mary, cause of our joy:



Mary, help of Christians; Mary, most powerful; Mary, comforter of the afflicted.

Other window scenes depict the life of Christ. A bell tower adorned the new – and still existing – chapel

Items of interest: The stained glass windows were donated by families in the community and



supported the Shrine. Many area men helped to rebuild the chapel after the fire. (My cousin said her grandfather helped and maybe my grandpa, they lived next door to the Shrine.)



To accommodate the increasing pilgrims – especially from the Catholic Ethnic communities of Toledo, Cleveland, Columbus, Youngstown, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Windsor, Canada and many more

– the outdoor Pieta Chapel was

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*"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)*



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constructed and dedicated in 1968. Mass is celebrated in the outdoor chapel during the Spring, Summer and Fall months. Since then, it has become a devotional landmark in northern Ohio.



On Sundays and Holy Days priests and religious lead devotional services and processions; they visit with people sharing their joys and sorrows or walk with them praying at one of the 41 grottos, gardens or Stations of the Cross in the woods on paved walkways. One can also catch a glimpse of various wildlife; turkeys, deer, squirrels, rabbits and birds freely roaming the grounds.



If you are looking for a special and awe inspiring place to visit in Ohio, the holy and historic shrine to the Sorrowful Mother is a place to go. The Shrine operates solely upon free-will offerings. There is also a cafeteria available and gift shop to purchase your saintly items.



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Vice President District 5
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District 5: Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin

Spice up your Spring with Seasonings

All of us that live up in the northern states can't wait until spring. Here are some spicy ideas to spice up your spring! Take some time and try these simple recipes to make your own steak, hamburger, veggie, and anything in between...seasonings. I found this recipe in a magazine and have been using it ever since, but I add a little ground red pepper to spice it up a bit. My favorite paprika is a smoked paprika from Trader Joe's. I use this on our homemade burgers, steaks, and on top of roasted vegetables. Sometimes I add a bit of turmeric on the veggies too. You may add 3 tablespoons of brown sugar as well. I sometimes add the brown sugar depending on what I am creating, like a rib or pork shoulder rub. I add it individually as I don't want it in my everyday steak seasoning blend. I have thought of making this basic recipe in bulk to share with friends and family as a gift, or to have a fun event and have members create containers of seasoning to take home! This would be fun for your SMART Auxiliary meeting! Be sure to buy in bulk at local warehouse centers like Costco.



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Steak Seasoning Blend

Ingredient List:

- 3 tablespoons (tbsp) of sea salt
- 3 tbsp of paprika, or smoked paprika
- 2 tbsp of ground black pepper
- 1 tbsp of garlic powder
- 1 tbsp of onion powder
- 1 tbsp of dried thyme

Directions:

Mix all the ingredients together well. Store in an airtight container. Great for seasoning steaks, any beef poultry, fish, or vegetables. Can be used as a rub.

To create **Blackened Seasoning Blend**, add the following to your Steak Seasoning Blend:

- 1 tbsp of cayenne (red) pepper
- 1 tsp of dried oregano
- 1 tsp of dried parsley or basil

Mix all the ingredients together well. Store in airtight container. To cook blackened meat: Drench meat in butter or oil, heavily coat or dip with blackening seasoning mix. Pan fry in cast iron skillet or bake in oven flipping to cook and create crust on both sides.

Lawry's (copycat) Seasoning Blend

Ingredients List:

- 2 tbsp of sea salt
- 2 tsp of white sugar
- ¾ tsp of paprika
- ¼ tsp of garlic powder
- ¼ tsp of onion powder
- ¼ tsp of turmeric
- ¼ tsp of cornstarch
- 1/8 tsp of celery salt

Mix all the ingredients together well. Store in airtight container. Great for beef, pork, and poultry before and after cooking. Sprinkle on popcorn or French fries. Great on baked potatoes, vegetables, eggs, rice and pasta.

Tip: I used a large funnel to add the spices to my jars. This creates a layering system. Which might be fun for gifts but be sure to let your gift receivers know to shake up their seasoning blend. Enjoy your spice mixes, you will have the whole family raving about your burgers! And your veggies!

continued VP Corner

NEW MEMBERS

DeAnn Gates

Maria Brewer

Kylie Goates

Kaylee Goates

Carolyn Bennett

Scott Adams

DECEASED MEMBERS

Stanley Goss

Jeannette J Bradford



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Carol Menges

Vice President District 6

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District 6: Colorado, Kansas, Missouri,
Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota



A return to normalcy!

We hear it often today, as we appear to be at the peak of learning to live with COVID. The pandemic has engulfed our lives over the past two years to the point that we no longer know what normal looks like! We now have to create a “new” normal for our families and us.

We have watched as politics have intruded into our health and welfare—as we let our political views influence our health decisions. As we always say, “Politics are local and elections have consequences!” We can debate a long time on what it means to return to normal!

BUT---IT IS SPRINGTIME!

There is not a better time to “clean house”—literally and figuratively! If you are like me, COVID allowed the house to get a little messier—did not have many visitors! Time to start getting things tidied up but more importantly, it is time to take inventory of our own spiritual and mental needs that may have suffered over the past two years of Covid.

Springtime is always an exciting time of the year. It is a time of year where we are happier just thinking about warmer weather

and getting outdoors after being cooped up with winter weather and the fears of the pandemic.

Spring is the time for change and what better time, apparently being on the downhill side of the pandemic, to learn how we will live with COVID and return to a more normal life! This spring more than ever we want, change! Spring provides us with the “springboard” to look for the positive and cheerful aspects of our lives.

Spring is a time of...

-  *rebirth, renewal and awakening.*
-  *looking forward to more comfortable and warmer days.*
-  *looking forward to real sunshine and longer days.*
-  *looking forward to hearing the birds singing.*
-  *looking forward to spending more time outdoors.*
-  *looking forward to seeing our family and friends.*
-  *looking forward to soothing scents of fresh air.*
-  *looking forward to new life and vibrant colors of nature.*

The renewed awakening of nature has such a positive touch on our inner being. So take advantage of this special time of year to renew yourself—set some goals—visit with your family, friends and neighbors. Plan that trip---but have a Plan B—Covid is still lurking out there!



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Most of all, be patient. Remember everyone is searching for that new normal and it will be different for everyone so be willing to meet everyone on their terms as they search for their new normal.

With that renewal, comes the chance to breathe new life into our Auxiliary. If you are like me, I look forwards to being able to get together for meetings and social events. It is very much like mixing up a fresh menu for your family—Springtime brings new recipes, fresh vegetables and fresh ideas into the kitchen. So this spring bring that new mixed up menu to the Auxiliary as we work together to strengthen our membership and help each other return to a new refreshing normal.

National Legislative Director Column

Greetings Brothers and Sisters!

It's time! Here in Texas, our primary election was March 1st. The calls, texts and emails filled social media and the typical negative commercials hit air-waves. How I wish campaigns were only allowed to speak positively about their own candidate. Be done. Period.

Unfortunately, it is up to each of us to search for the truth. I'm not sure about everywhere, but the Texas League of Women Voters put out a list of State and National Candidates and offer unbiased information about, pro and con, those who respond to their inquiry. So often it's difficult to find out much about those running for office, such as judges, and

their list is a great guide. It's definitely a good place to at least start.

We are fortunate that SMART TD's National Legislative Office puts out a list of Candidates from both parties prior to the General Election who will support us. Regardless of the office, it is important we elect candidates who will support our railroaders and their families. I know... broken record...but reality is: politicians at all levels, local, State and Federal, have a hand and a say in your life, in the safety of our loved ones. If you do not prioritize the job when you vote, you cannot expect politicians to care.

With Primaries under way, it is important that you know your registration status. So many States have new voting laws. Just because you voted in the last election does not guarantee you will be eligible this round. Check with your County Elections office asap.

On another note, our Auxiliary is working with the International to reach out to SMART-TD members and retirees regarding several issues. We could definitely use your help. The calls are brief, with only one or possibly two questions. I love getting to talk to people from around the Country. Please contact either Kathryn or me for more information.

Be informed, vote in your primary!

Pam Neal
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Auxiliary of the UTU Scholarship Fund News

BOARD'S ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD

The Auxiliary of the UTU Scholarship Fund board members are preparing for their annual meeting (that includes decisions on the number of scholarships to be given, and the drawing for the 2022-2023 Scholarship Awards) to be held in April at the Auxiliary headquarters in North Olmsted, Ohio, or a possible online meeting to keep our board safe through social distancing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board is required to give a minimum of eight (8) scholarships each year to meet IRS guidelines. Individuals who have been selected as winners will be sent a congratulations letter in May informing them of their award. A list of winners and their sponsor Auxiliary member will be published in the June Auxiliary Newsletter and on the Smart-Union.org/td (Auxiliary link).

DONATIONS

Dan Lipscomb \$50.00 in memory of Virginia Lipscomb who was a 75+ year member of the Auxiliary.

A thank you was also included with the donation:

My son Adam Lipscomb was a recipient of the scholarship for 3 years. I sincerely appreciate the generosity of the UTU Auxiliary in providing this helpful scholarship and would like to give back to the fund now that he has graduated. Thanks to you and the scholarship board for all you do. Genuinely appreciated

Thank you to all the Lodges and our members for their continued generous support to the Scholarship Fund!

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

For the 2021-22 school years, the board used 19 alternates: funds were given out for 50 scholarships – a yearly total of \$50,000.00

REMINDER: Scholarships are given ONLY in the FALL of each year and are for \$1000.00.

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