

AUXILIARY of UTU TIMES

REACHING FOR THE FUTURE

Volume 10

We are holding our own.

April 2008

The world around us is ever changing. As we move from season to season we are reminded of this every day. It has been a long cold, snowy winter in Cleveland and we are looking forward to the coming of spring and the budding trees and flowers. Spring always brings the glimmer of hope and new life!

When I landed in Cleveland no one had prepared me or taught me how to be president of the Auxiliary. I knew that changes had to be made to bring us into the 21st Century. I also knew that with changes come challenges. I realize that change is difficult and we are all secure in the status quo even if we realize that the future is now.

If we are going to attract new and younger members, we are going to have to change. When I was first elected to this position I was told that it can be “lonely at the top.” I have felt that loneliness as I have asked for change. I thank the Board of Directors and Trustees for their faith and trust in planning for these growth changes for the future of our Organization.

The Boards met the end of February to set the course for the next year. Even though we have seen many members pass on this past year we have seen many new members come on board—“we are holding our own” I thank each of the Board members for their hard work while here in Cleveland. They tackled many difficult issues but worked through them and have set us on a path of growth in the coming year. The Board of Directors and Trustees showed a great desire to bring about success for the

Auxiliary. The future is bright but the road may be a little bumpy as we mix our rich heritage with the youthful spirit.

Once again, I wish to personally thank:

Dana Garvin
International Secretary/Treasurer
Patricia Shacklette
Chairperson of the Executive Board
Mary MacLellan
Canadian Vice President
Kathryn Hastings
National Legislative Director
Kathy McIntrye
Chairperson of the Board of Trustees
Linda Ogburn
Secretary of the Board of Trustees
Pat Maccagno
Member of the Board of Trustees

As always we must remember our past while moving forward. We will begin the cycle of attending meetings and promoting the Auxiliary but it takes each one of us---young and forever young---to talk with our friends and families about joining the Auxiliary and becoming involved. It is about being informed and educated about the lives of all transportation workers and their families. It is about being inclusive and willing to listen to each others viewpoint. It is about being constructive and positive—full of energy that rubs off on others! With our busy world we often leave the work to someone else but we must now be the one.

In Sisterly Love,
Carol S. Menges
International President

KENTUCKY STATE LEGISLATIVE REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING



It was a great honor to be able to attend the Kentucky State Legislative Quadrennial Meeting in Frankfort, KY on March 4 – 5. What a wonderful way for the Auxiliary to reach out to the UTU membership and their spouses through the State Legislative Representatives.

AUXILIARY STATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORS NEEDED

Is there any Auxiliary member that is interested in becoming an Auxiliary State Legislative Director? If you are a member in good standing and live in the following states please contact Kathryn Hastings, National Legislative Director.

Connecticut, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, and West Virginia

Recently, Lesley Miracle of Lodge 573 has agreed to accept the position as Kentucky State Legislative Director.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Do you have any items of interest that you would like to share with your fellow Lodge Members?

This is an excellent way for lodges to share activities and other information with one another.

Please mail your articles and/or pictures to Grand Lodge (or better yet send an e-mail to: utuauxiliaryintpres@utu.org).

LODGE 431 CREATES NEWSLETTER

Pikes Peak Lodge #431 has found a way to reach their membership to keep them informed and to remind them of upcoming lodge events through their own annual newsletter. The newsletter is sent out at the time when lodge members are being reminded to send their lodge dues in.

LODGE 439 AUXILIARY MEMBER OF 85 YEARS PASSES ON

Golden Rule Lodge, Knoxville, TN considered Harriet Harris as their longest living member of 85 years. “Granny” Harriet was a loving, caring and dedicated Christian lady who brought fun and laughter to those who knew her throughout the years until her passing at the age of 102 on December 11, 2007.

JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER

Semi-Annual Reports should be prepared in *January* (for the period of July 1st through December 31st) and *July* (for the period of January 1st through June 30th) and are to be sent to the International President’s Office.

Treasurer’s Assessments should be prepared by March 15th (count of members as of January 1st) and September 15th (count of members as of July 1st) sent to the International Secretary/Treasurer’s Office. Please make assessment check payable to the Auxiliary of the United Transportation Union.

ADDRESS CHANGES

If you know of any fellow members who have recently moved, please send Grand Lodge the new address so we can keep our records up-to-date.

Interested in Receiving the Newsletter

If your members are interested in receiving our newsletter please have them call or write Grand Lodge. We will be more than happy to include them to be put on the list.

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

Hello Sisters and Brothers. I wanted to first take a minute to express my thanks (as I am sure you would agree) to our sister, former National Legislative Director, Charlie Belden. I know that Charlie felt torn with making the decision to resign from her position with the Auxiliary, so if you would like to send her a little note to tell her "thanks" and to keep in touch, you can email her at: hdlady22553@aol.com. I know she would love to hear from us!

First, I wanted to first introduce myself to all my sisters and brothers since I know many of you don't know me. I am the daughter of Jay Seegmiller, the Utah State Legislative Director. My father has been very involved with the Legislative office in Washington, DC and I believe this will be a great connection for us in the Auxiliary to know what's going on at the Capital. I did help manage my father's campaign when he was running in Utah's District 49 House of Representatives in 2004 and 2006 and so I bring some experience in getting the word out and getting people involved in what's going on politically. I look forward to getting to know everyone and working with you. This is a very crucial year for elections so we all need to make sure that we are registered to vote and to make sure that we do get out and vote!

WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE CAPITAL

Soon, The Senate will be voting on a version of the rail safety bill. When this happens, I will send out an "action alert" email to let you know when we need you to write letters and make phone calls to your Senators. The House version of this bill passed in the House last summer.

This bill is a very important bill dealing with a tremendous number of rail safety issues. Some of the most important aspects of the bill are:

- A minimum of 10 hours undisturbed rest between shifts.
- Limits on Limbo time. (Time after the hours of service expires to get crews to rest)
- Establishes time frame for implementing "Positive Train Control Systems" to improve safety

This bill will do a lot to improve the safety of our railroad workers in the US. We, as UTU Auxiliary members can and will have a large impact on whether this bill passes. Please watch for further information on how you can help to make this bill become law.

This is a crucial year for elections so make sure that you are registered to vote and make sure you vote.

Yours in Sisterly Love,

Kathryn Hastings
National Legislative Director
Auxiliary of the UTU
Phone: 801-347-8120
Email: AuxLegislativeDirector@gmail.com

Contribute to UTU PAC – The best way to help elect representatives that understand the concerns of UTU members.

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Lodge	Name	Date of Death	Lodge	Name	Date of Death
005	Effie B. McClearn	11-04-07	421	Dorothy J. Edwards	05-20-07
012	Leanna F. Harding	03-01-08	421	Edna Shingler	01-26-07
014	Florence Pittman	11-06-07	431	Corinne Chesser	01-03-08
028	Kathryn Dickerman	03-03-08	452	Bessie Levin	11-06-07
028	Lorine R. Hofer	12-10-07	452	Cecelia M. Morgan	06-01-07
028	Vivian L. Killmon	09-00-07	452	Mary R. Stanley	12-19-07
028	Ruth C. Moriarty	12-14-07	456	Edna M. Becker	12-06-07
105	Anna M. Davidson	03-17-08	457	Christine E. Coppola	03-07-08
105	Svea B. Francisco	07-24-07	457	Theresa R. Franzen	02-29-08
120	Olga McCarthy	03-00-08	481	Geraldine Ford Page	12-31-07
120	Dorothy I. McCormick	10-03-07	481	Fannie M. Lee	11-05-07
120	Elizabeth Stevenson	12-09-07	481	Mary E. Williams	01-19-08
176	Phyllis E. Tingle	01-16-08	500	Mabel G. Benge	02-10-08
177	Eva Emerson	02-24-08	500	Dorothy Swift	11-08-07
197	Merle Smith	11-27-07	565	Margaret H. Buser	12-14-07
200	Elsie L. Green	10-15-07	565	Cleo Jesse	01-05-08
200	Jane K. Zinkel	01-04-08	565	Patricia Robaszkievicz	02-02-08
206	Rachel Tomlin	11-09-07	565	Bette R. Root	02-22-08
219	Marjorie E. Barr	12-11-07	593	Margaret Constine	01-22-08
219	Edna A. Diehl	01-07-08	619	Ethel L. Anderson	11-29-07
219	Louise C. Faust	02-10-08	629	Jean I. Mervine	02-25-08
219	Alma E. Wible	03-03-08	667	Therese Bellefleur	11-11-07
264	Lola A. Jordan	01-03-08	667	Corinne Nolan	02-09-08
264	Christine R. Small	12-28-07	707	Imogene F. Edwards	10-15-07
264	Mina M. Zadik	02-08-08	778	Martha A. Waites	10-31-07
305	Elaine G. Mizell	01-14-08	793	Angeline L. Eppinger	12-23-07
314	Lillian Glanz	01-25-08	808	Rosina Fowler	09-23-07
314	Charlotte M. Grube	01-09-08	818	Dorothy Turner	10-20-07
314	Cecelia Hendershot	01-25-08	846	Lois L. Maxwell	01-19-08
314	Cecelia Mellow	01-26-08	846	Mildred L. McKenzie	01-23-08
318	Satye B. Moore	01-07-08	851	Doris N. Jesse	10-01-07
328	Edith H. Phillips	01-29-08	873	Marguerite E. Kister	02-09-08
376	Edith C. Daddario	11-01-07	894	Elizabeth A. Gill	11-26-07
376	Mildred B. Orner	01-19-08	897	Margaret B. Taylor	01-31-08
377	Amelda R. Mavity	02-22-08	932	Dorothy M. Arburn	02-24-08
377	Sara Ruth Stewart	11-29-07	932	Margaret A. Hindman	11-24-07
377	Mary Strum	11-28-07	932	Beatrice G. Hooks	01-17-08
391	Clara S. Conner	08-05-07	933	Albatine R. Bobbitt	10-30-07
391	Eleanor G. Platt	03-09-08	933	Annie H. Burks	12-31-07
398	Evelyn B. Field	11-12-07	948	Alice M. Graham	02-23-08
398	Jean Folan	12-19-07	958	Donna M. Hogsett	01-21-08
399	Viola V. Cameron	06-26-07	960	Ann H. Shires	01-12-08
399	Verna MacDonald	12-24-07	960	Aylease Turner	03-17-06
419	Mary A. McCormick	03-10-08	960	Velma M. White	10-20-07

*I believe in angels, the kind that the heavens send.
I'm surrounded by angels, but I call them my friends.*

**AUXILIARY OF THE UTU
SCHOLARSHIP FUND BOARD**

On Friday, January 18, 2008, President Patricia Shacklette drew the nominations out of a pool. The officers of Lodge 28, "Victory" St. Louis, MO. were witnesses.

On Tuesday, March 18, 2008, the ballots were checked for authenticity and counted by President Patricia Shacklette with officers of Lodge 28 "Victory" St. Louis, MO as witnesses. The results of the election show that the following sisters were elected to the Scholarship Fund Board:

Janet Ingram
Lodge #28, St. Louis, Missouri

Wanda Fisher
Lodge #391, Emporia, Kansas

Congratulations - we are looking forward in seeing both of these two members as they start their terms at the Annual Scholarship Meeting on April 11, 2008, where we will draw out the 2008 Scholarship winners.

At this time we want to thank Sisters Charlie Belden and Kathy McIntrye who have given so much time and energy in their efforts to continue the commitment of aiding in the education of the Auxiliary member's family in their two terms on the Scholarship Fund Board. You will be truly missed.

Our thanks, appreciation, and gratitude go out to the following for their generous support:

Lodge No 170	\$ 50.00
Lodge No 642	\$ 25.00
Lodge No 953	\$100.00

When sending in your donation – Please make check payable to:
"Auxiliary of the UTU Scholarship Fund"

Donations will gladly be accepted from lodges or individuals. When sending you donation – Mail to:

Carol S. Menges
Treasurer – Scholarship Fund Board
3617 Schott Road
Jefferson City, MO 65101-9026

UTU PAC

The Auxiliary supports the UTU-PAC – Political Action Committee because jobs, pensions, and futures of UTU railroad, bus, and airline workers. Their families are directly affected by the actions of state and national lawmakers.

One half of each dollar to UTU-PAC is returned to the home state, for the use of the State UTU Legislative Director. The remaining half is sent to the Washington UTU Legislative Office for promoting national issues and helping with elections of persons who will support labor

Our thanks, appreciation, and gratitude goes out to the following lodge for their generous support:

Lodge 170	\$ 50.00
Lodge 431	\$ 75.00
Lodge 642	\$ 25.00
Lodge 953	\$100.00

LODGE 573 SHARES NEW IDEA

Rachel Workman, Lodge President says they have decided to try something new! What we are proposing to do is to use "Myspace", to reach our members easily between lodge meetings and to hopefully to put information out there to possibly gain new members, too!

Myspace could also be a great tool of communication among other lodge members who are interested in knowing what each other are doing in their lodges. If you have any questions, contact Sister Rachel at wvrachel07@hotmail.com.

Memorial Donations are still being collected in the name of Phyllis Chandler for her years of service to the Auxiliary of the United Transportation Union. Make check payable to the "Auxiliary of the United Transportation Union Scholarship Fund". Please make note in check memo: Phyllis Chandler.)

So far \$920.00 has been collected.

PREPARING SENIORS FOR 2009'S DIGITAL TV SWITCH

No one who enjoys relaxing in front of the TV likes to lose reception.

But for older Americans who rely on television for companionship, for another voice in the house, that loss could be devastating. And without help, senior advocates fear, many among that population will turn on their sets early in 2009 to find only static.

The culprit? The nation's scheduled switch to digital transmission.

Congress ordered the change from analog, partly to clear frequencies for police, fire and other public safety personnel. The law requires that analog broadcasts, which take up more space on the airwaves than digital signals, be gone by Feb. 17, 2009.

Consumers with analog TVs will have to upgrade, satellite or a digital television, or retrofit their sets with converter boxes.

Experts worry seniors may be caught off guard.

"Many older people live alone; they have very little support nearby," said Edwin Walker, US Administration of Aging deputy Assistant Secretary for policy and programs. "They are not in the public every day interacting with others. They run the risk of being left behind."

The boxes are expected to cost from \$40 to \$70 and should be in stores by late Feb. or early March.

The Federal Communication Commission, which is overseeing the digital transition, is sending field agents to senior centers to talk about the change and demonstrate converter-box setup.

The Administration began taking orders for \$40.00 off coupons, allowing two per household (coupons expire 90 days from date of mailing) You can go online (www.dtv2009.gov) or call (888-DTV-2009)

RECOGNIZING A STROKE

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

Ask the individual to SMILE.

Ask them to TALK and SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (It is sunny out today).

Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

Another 'sign' of a stroke is this: Ask the person to 'stick' out his tongue. If the tongue is 'crooked', it goes to one side or the other (also an indication of a stroke).

If he or she has trouble with *any one* of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

If you can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke.

JUST FOR FUN.....The Half-Wit

A man owned a small farm in Indiana.

The Indiana State Wage & Hour Department claimed he was not paying proper wages to his help and sent an agent out to interview him.

"I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them" demanded the agent.

"Well," replied the farmer, "there's my farm hand who's been with me for 3 years. I pay him \$200 a week plus free room and board".

The cook has been here for 18 months, I pay her \$150 per week plus free room and board.

Then there's the half-wit who works about 18 hours every day and does about 90% of all the work around here. He makes about \$10 per week, pays his own room and board, and I buy him a bottle of bourbon every Saturday night. He also sleeps with my wife occasionally."

That's the guy I want to talk to --- the half-wit," says the agent.

"That would be me," replied the farmer.

U. S. Railroad Retirement Board

Informational Conference registrations begins at 8:00 a.m., with the programs beginning at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 12:30 p.m. Check for the location nearest to you below:

- | | | | | | |
|-------|----|--|------|----|---|
| April | 4 | Covina, California
Blake's at the Radisson Suites
1211 East Garvey Street | | 16 | Washington, DC
Renaissance Washington
999 9 th Street, NW |
| | 4 | Birmingham, Alabama
Sheraton Birmingham Hotel
2101 Richard Arrington Jr Blvd N | | 30 | Little Rock, Arkansas
Hilton Hotel
925 S University
Ballroom A-D |
| | 11 | Sacramento, California
Radisson Hotel
500 Leisure Lane | | 30 | Buffalo, New York
Holiday Inn Express
601 Dingens Street |
| | 11 | Williamsburg, Virginia
Williamsburg Hospitality House
415 Richmond Road | June | 6 | Billings, Montana
Wingate Hotel
1801 Majestic Lane |
| | 18 | Eagan, Minnesota
Best Western Dakota Ridge
3450 Washington Drive
Eagan, Minnesota | | 6 | Mansfield, Massachusetts
Holiday Inn
31 Hampshire Street |
| | 18 | Romulus, Michigan
Crowne Plaza Hotel
8000 Merriman Rd | | 13 | Salt Lake City, Utah
Quality Inn Airport
1659 West North Temple |
| | 24 | Balwin, New York
Coral House
70 Milburn Ave | | 13 | Tinley Park, Illinois
Holiday Inn Select/Convention
18501 S Harlem Ave |
| | 25 | St. Louis, Missouri
Holiday Inn South County
6921 South Lindbergh Blvd | | 20 | Duluth, Minnesota
Radisson Hotel Duluth
Harborview
505 W Superior Street |
| | 25 | East Hanover, New Jersey
Ramada Conference Center
130 Route 10 West | Oct | 3 | West Des Moines, Iowa
Hampton Inn
7060 Lake Drive |
| May | 2 | Kansas City, Missouri
Embassy Suites
Kansas City Airport
7640 Tiffany Springs Pkwy | | 3 | Huntington, West Virginia
Ramada Limited
3094 16 th Street |
| | 2 | Altoona, Pennsylvania
Ramada Conference Center
1 Sheraton Drive | | 17 | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Greater Pennsylvania Regional
Council of Carpenters Union
650 Ridge Road |
| | 9 | Lakewood, Colorado
Holiday Inn Lakewood
7390 West Hampden Ave | | 24 | Wichita, Kansas
Holiday Inn Select
549 S Rock Road |
| | 9 | Smyrna, Georgia
Holiday Inn Express
1200 Winchester Parkway | | 31 | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Sheet Metal Workers
Union Hall
1301 S Columbus Blvd |
| | 16 | Independence, Ohio
Holiday Inn
6001 Rockside Rd | Nov | 14 | Metairie, Louisiana
Four Points/Sheraton
6401 Veterans Memorial Blvd |
| | | | Dec | 5 | Jacksonville, Florida
Holiday Inn
9150 Baymeadows Road |

**Auxiliary of the
United Transportation Union
14600 Detroit Ave 2nd Floor
Cleveland OH 44107-4250**

IMPORTANT

Carol S. Menges **utuauxiliaryintpres@utu.org**
International President Phone: (216) 521-1161

Dana L. Garvin **utuauxiliaryints&t@utu.org**
International Sec/Treas. Phone: (216) 521-2522

**INFORMATION
ENCLOSED**