

# AUXILIARY of UTU TIMES

## REACHING FOR THE FUTURE

---

Volume 10

*Relying on heritage - exploring new ideas!*

June 2008

In the spring time afternoon a quiet breeze blows across the green hill, clouds begin to form on the western horizon and soon the distance rumbles of thunder can be heard. Soon the clouds darken and the winds begin to intensify and the thunder cracks and booms and we know that the storm is near. The energy of a springtime storm is intriguing. We love to watch the clouds form and darken and watch the streaks of lightening arch across the sky knowing the powerful energy yet watching and waiting.

The Auxiliary has been much like the springtime storm except that we have been caught in the building process and have been that quiet springtime breeze. Gentle blowing in the background providing support for our spouses and family members, promoting the good of the community while working hard to keep all at home in some order of sanity.

When the Auxiliary was founded almost 120 years ago (January 23, 1889), our members lived in the same neighborhoods. They all knew each other and everything about each other as good neighbors would. As the years passed so have the neighborhoods as they were. We are now spread out all over the United States and Canada but the gentle breeze is still blowing – yet still building.

When I became president over three years ago I did so with the intent to energize and renew our Auxiliary – to get the winds blowing.

It is easy to sit behind a desk and to administer to the organization – but the breeze only stirs the leaves. It is time for a storm. We need to take our energies and work to create that storm.

Each one of us is part of that gentle breeze but together we can work to make that breeze a great wind that will bring about the change that is needed to make the Auxiliary of the United Transportation Union the wind of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I can hear the rumble in the distance! If each of us – young and young at heart – do our part we can create that storm. We can redefine who and what we are! I promise my energy and working hard with each of you. Working together, resolving difference, relying on our heritage as we explore new ideas and grow the idea of union, family, and support for our Auxiliary.

We can sit back and let someone else do the work but then it will only be the breeze. I love the miracle of a springtime storm, the ability of energy to form and to come together and make the rain. After the storm, the calm comes and the flowers bloom and growth renews the earth.

The gentle breeze is blowing, the air is crisp and fresh, I feel the winds beginning to blow harder – will the rain pass us by or will the rain provide us growth for the future.

In Sisterly Love,

Carol S. Menges

International President

## LODGE 431 PRESENTS PLAQUE

“Pikes Peak” Lodge in Pueblo, Colorado show their appreciation by honoring Past Lodge Officers with a plaque for their many years of service to their Lodge.

Pam Diftta - Lodge Vice President presented the honorees Sisters Helen Wilson with a 15 year plaque as Lodge President and Sarahjane Adams a 20 year plaque as Lodge Secretary/Treasurer.

## LODGE 391 GAVEL PASSED ON

Below is Past Lodge President Ida Jones passing the gavel to new Lodge President Patricia England of Lodge 391 Emporia, Kansas.

The gavel was given to Lodge 391 for taking in the most new members during 1974-75 and presented by Grand Lodge at the Ladies Auxiliary of the United Transportation Union Second International Convention – August 4 - 11, 1975.



Left to Right: Patricia England – Lodge President and Ida Jones

## SEMI-ANNUAL/ANNUAL REPORTS

When sending your Annual Report and the December 31 Semi-Annual Report, you do not need to send them in different mailing envelopes. Save the postage and send them in the same mailing envelope to the Office of the International President.

## DEPOSIT CHECKS REQUEST

International Secretary/Treasurer requests that if your lodge is holding any checks from Grand Lodge, would you please cash them as soon as possible! For bookkeeping purposes it would be good to deposit within 30 days.

## UNITED HEALTH CARE TAKES OVER ELIGIBILITY

Over the past several months, Aetna has been conducting an audit of eligible dependents and requiring employees to submit proof for their eligible dependents to continue uninterrupted health-care benefits.

Those employees who have failed to provide the required proof have had their dependents' coverage terminated *effective April 15, 2008*.

United Health Care has now taken over the eligibility audit process and if you receive notification that dependent coverage has been terminated, *immediately call United Health Care at (800) 753-2692* in order to obtain information about reinstating those eligible dependents.

## AUXILIARY of the UTU SCHOLARSHIP FUND BOARD INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

During the April 11, 2008 Annual Auxiliary Scholarship Fund Board Meeting, Scholarship President - Patricia Shacklette installed two new board members; Sisters Wanda Fisher and Janet Ingram for their term starting April 2008 – April 2011.

Plaques were sent to the outgoing Scholarship Board Members, Sisters Charlie Belden and Kathy McIntrye in appreciation for all their years of service.  
2004 – 2008



Left to Right: Patricia Shacklette –President, Janet Ingram, Wanda Fisher, and Carol Menges – Scholarship Treasurer.

## NEW AUXILIARY STATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORS

Virginia Hensler (Lodge 163) has come forth and has accepted the open position of Auxiliary Indiana State Legislative Director.

Dorothy Jefferies (Lodge 105) has accepted the position as Auxiliary Oregon State Legislative Director.

## STATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

I am a political junkie and being that, I have learned more about the political process than I ever thought possible. At present, I am the Vice Chair of the Wyoming Democratic Party and I am an Uncommitted Super-delegate to the Democratic National Convention. A few weeks ago I had the opportunity to meet both Candidates and had one-on-one time with them. I see wonderful qualities in both Candidates so it is going to be a hard decision as to which one will be the best leader for our country. No matter what though, I hope that which ever Candidate is nominated we will all come together and support them. We need one of these Candidates to support and protect our Transportation families because at present, this administration isn't doing that.

Again, I hope anyone that is thinking about becoming a Legislative Director – will do so. It is an opportunity that they will always cherish.

Yours in Sisterly Love, Nancy Drummond



Wyoming Auxiliary State Legislative Director Nancy Drummond met with Sen. Hillary Clinton in Sheridan, Wyoming on March 7.

## LODGE 5 SALAD LUNCHEON GIVEN

On April 29 “Good Times International” Lodge – Cleveland, Ohio had their annual Salad Luncheon. It was a great time along with the great variety of dishes to be had. This year the proceeds went to UTU - PAC.



Right to Left: Brother Dale Rauch – Lodge Secretary/Treasurer, Carol Menges – Int. Pres., Paula Grant – Lodge Vice - President ( Elaine Clark – Lodge President was not available for picture.)

## UTU PAC

The Auxiliary supports this effort to help friends in Congress and in the State Legislative by donating our time and our dollars.

**When sending in your contribution –  
Please make payable to:**

“United Transportation Union – PAC”

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

Lodge 778	\$ 25.00
Lodge 5	\$200.00



Carri Utley- Lodge 163 President with husband Randy with Hillary Clinton in Princeton, Indiana.

## DEPARTED MEMBERS

Lodge	Name	Date of Death	Lodge	Name	Date of Death
014	June L. Skinner	12-23-07	431	Helen F. Osborn	07-00-07
019	Fannie Shafer	04-18-08	431	Mary Tekavec	03-07-08
028	Elverna Byrnes	02-07-08	439	Juanita McClenagan	01-18-08
028	Ceena S. Ehret	01-29-08	442	Beverly L. Wick	03-19-08
028	Benice E. Krogh	02-26-08	452	Ruby Langley	02-24-08
028	Clara J. Mulcahey	02-16-08	456	Katherine Brehm	01-17-08
028	Muriel M. Schultz	03-04-08	456	Wilma C. Hahn	03-26-08
028	LaVerne V. Whitehead	03-15-08	456	Susie E. Olson	12-16-07
105	Edna M. Grewell	04-00-08	457	Louise Anderson	03-02-08
105	Norma B. Smith	02-18-08	481	Maxine Young	05-08-08
176	Geraldine A. Lewis	02-02-08	565	Leona Kinsman	01-28-08
177	Sarah C. Holste	04-18-08	565	Frances Sullivan	03-26-08
213	Sylvia M. Mahan	01-01-08	610	Ruth Selby	04-09-08
219	Geraldine E. Harten	03-18-08	688	Beatrice Brunner	11-23-07
259	Naomi Gilmartin	04-13-08	688	Willie J. Harris	02-00-08
270	LaVay A. Dimick	02-13-08	694	Lois Sweley	04-21-08
289	Roxie Driscoll	02-17-08	707	Lee O. Pearce	05-06-08
289	Juanita Johnson	02-06-08	738	Marcella Baumgartner	05-07-08
289	Winifred W. Tucker	04-00-08	778	Josie B. Loney	05-07-08
289	Elaine Walters	02-16-08	793	Arlene C. Brooks	03-17-08
314	Jayne Callas	07-16-07	793	Betty J. Hall	05-12-08
314	Audrey J. Phillips	02-20-08	803	Bertie P. Johnson	02-21-08
318	Harrye Davis	03-14-08	803	Kay Vahldick	05-05-08
318	Willie G. Eagar	03-28-08	840	Eva F. Thompson	05-02-08
328	Dorothy J. Owens	03-29-08	840	Phyllis L. Wedlake	05-02-08
377	Margaret Tate	02-19-08	856	Eleanor J. Weekley	03-11-08
383	Margarette E. Armstrong	02-20-08	897	Della Lamb	02-21-08
391	Zelma A. Bergen	03-30-08	932	Mary A. Biggs	04-23-08
398	Jane C. McMann	01-10-08	948	Edith M. Bentley	02-17-08
421	Beverly Y. Collins	03-08-08	948	Florence J. Sleeper	04-26-08
421	Mary Livingston	03-08-08			

### The Fairest Rose in the Garden of Life

Is the fellowship of a Friend,  
Time but glorifies it's beauty  
with a fragrance that never ends.

No cloud can shade its loneliness,  
no storms it's petals part.

For the flowers of Friendship  
dwell forever in the shrine of the human heart!

*Walking Through Life's Garden -by the Kings*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

We received info from James Brunkenhoefer, UTU National Legislative Representative, that Senator Kohl (D-WI) wants to move a rail anti-trust bill. The UTU is neutral on this legislation. In order to gain leverage for that bill, we have been told by Senate staff that he is holding S. 1889, the Rail Safety bill.

The Rail Safety bill has been years in coming. It is not a perfect bill but it should improve the situation for many of our members. In order to get to the next stop, which is a conference committee report, and then to the White House, it will be necessary for Senator Kohl to take his hold off of the Rail Safety bill.

We can help by calling, emailing, faxing, etc Senator Kohl's offices by politely letting him know of the importance of moving S.1889. Any of us can do this, not just our members and their friends in Wisconsin.

Contact Information for Senator Kohl – Please keep calling or there will be no Rail Safety Bill.

Washington DC Office

Phone: 202-224-5653

Fax: 202-224-9787

Web Form:

[http://kohl.senate.gov/gen\\_contact.html](http://kohl.senate.gov/gen_contact.html)

Appleton Office

Phone: 920-738-1640

Fax: 920-738-1643

Eau Claire Office

Phone: 715-832-8424

Fax: 715-832-8492

Milwaukee Office

Phone: 414-297-4451

Fax: 414-297-4455

Madison Office

Phone: 608-264-5338

Fax: 608-264-5473

La Crosse Office

Phone: 608-796-0045

Fax: 608-796-0089

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!

Lastly, we still need Legislative reps for: Connecticut, Maryland, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and West Virginia.

Please contact me if you are interested in helping out.

Yours in Sisterly Love,

Kathryn Hastings

National Legislative Director

Auxiliary of the UTU

Phone: 801-347-8120

Email: [AuxLegislativeDirector@gmail.com](mailto:AuxLegislativeDirector@gmail.com)

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

**AUXILIARY of the UTU  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND BOARD**

The members of the Auxiliary Scholarship Fund Board met in Cleveland, Ohio, on Friday, April 11, 2008. Auxiliary members submitted 64 scholarship applications for the 2008-2009 school year. The Board is required by the Internal Revenue Service to "spend" at least five (5) percent of our average annual net worth on the charitable purpose (namely scholarships) annually. In order to meet our IRS obligations for giving as a private foundation *this year*, the Board awarded ten (10) Auxiliary scholarships. These scholarships were awarded through a random drawing in the presence of the UTU Assistant General Counsel Kevin Brodar and the board members.

The following winners of the 2008-2009 Auxiliary Scholarships are listed in the order the applications were drawn.

**Samantha Briann Potucek**  
Granddaughter of Mary Sue Stone  
Lodge 28, St. Louis, Missouri

**Mirranda L. Dowell**  
Granddaughter of Janice R. Jones  
Lodge 431, Pueblo, Colorado

**Caleb C. Knott**  
Son of Sondra R. Knott  
Lodge 28, St. Louis, Missouri

**Jalyn McDowell**  
Grandson of Mary Alice Christensen  
Lodge 642, El Paso, Texas

**Kimberly McLeod**  
Granddaughter of Myrtice L. McLeod  
Lodge 803, Jacksonville, Florida

**Ashley Ann Bragg**  
Granddaughter of Lou Dell Bragg  
Lodge 856, Prattville, Alabama

**Elizabeth McLeod**  
Granddaughter of Myrtice L. McLeod  
Lodge 803, Jacksonville, Florida

**Jesse C. Beker**  
Grandson of Rose M. Brewer  
Lodge 500, Indianapolis, Indiana

**Jamie E. Dofflemyer**  
Granddaughter of Martha Dofflemyer  
Lodge 960, Shenandoah, Virginia

**Eric C. Yaggi**  
Grandson of Suzan G. Woodward  
Lodge 500, Indianapolis, Indiana

***Congratulations***

*to*

*all of the winners and their families!*

**Thank you** for your generous support to the Scholarship Fund. With your continuous contributions, we are able to fulfill our commitment of aiding in the future education of family members of the Auxiliary of the UTU. We greatly appreciate your donations.

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

Lodge 456	\$500.00
Lodge 778	\$ 25.00

**Donations for future scholarships** will gladly be accepted from lodges or individuals. Make checks payable to: "Auxiliary of the UTU Scholarship Fund."

Mail to: Carol S. Menges  
Treas. Scholarship Fund Board  
3617 Schott Road  
Jefferson City MO 65101-9026  
(573) 635-6415

**MEMORIALS**

Giving a contribution to the Scholarship Fund is a wonderful way to honor the memory of an Auxiliary member or loved one. The following Memorials have been received :

Lodge 622 \$100.00 for Sammie Moore

Lodge 667 \$ 50.00 for Harry Whaley  
Husband of Anna Mae Whaley  
District 4 Vice President

## IN LOVING MEMORY

Auxiliary Vice-President – District # 4  
Anna Mae Whaley's, husband Harry – "The  
Whaler" past away on March 29, 2008.

Harry was a conductor and brakeman for  
the B & O Railroad, Chessie and CSX for  
33 years. He was also an active member of  
the UTU Local 1816 where he held many  
offices.

Cards may be sent to:

26679 BRENTFIELD RD  
PERRYSBURGH OH 43551-2627

### LODGE 391 SHARE IDEA

President Patricia England of Lodge 391 at  
Emporia, Kansas has a success story to  
share with other Auxiliary lodges.

Because of the advancing age of many of  
our lodge members, it had become  
increasing difficult to transport two of our  
devoted officers to meetings at our regular  
meeting hall.

We were able to make arrangements with  
the assisted living facility where they reside  
to hold our meetings.

Since most of our members are widowed  
and live alone, we set up meetings to  
include lunch which the facility provides at  
a very fair cost. Each member pays only  
\$3.00 for her meal and the lodge pays the  
remainder. Since our ladies are a very  
close-knit group, they enjoy the meal and  
fellowship with other sisters prior to our  
business meeting.

Maybe your lodge has a similar situation.  
Why not check into facilities in your areas!

### MINNESOTA LIFE INSURANCE

Please inform all your members that they  
*cannot request* a "Death Notice Claim"  
Form ahead of time. When needed call:

1-866-293-6047 Ext. 57962

Sharon Greely

Minnesota Life Insurance

400 Robert St N

St. Paul MN 55101-2908

## U. S. RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

An informational Conference registration  
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:

- |      |    |   |
|------|----|---|
| June | 6  | <b>Billings, Montana</b><br>Wingate Hotel<br>1801 Majestic Lane   |
|      | 6  | <b>Mansfield, Massachusetts</b><br>Holiday Inn<br>31 Hampshire Street   |
|      | 13 | <b>Salt Lake City, Utah</b><br>Quality Inn Airport<br>1659 West North Temple                                      |
|      | 13 | <b>Tinley Park, Illinois</b><br>Holiday Inn Hotel/Convention<br>18501 S Harlem Ave                                |
|      | 20 | <b>Duluth, Minnesota</b><br>Radisson Hotel Duluth<br>Harborview<br>505 W Superior Street                          |
| Oct  | 3  | <b>West Des Moines, Iowa</b><br>Hampton Inn<br>7060 Lake Drive  |
|      | 3  | <b>Huntington, West Virginia</b><br>Ramada Limited<br>3094 16 <sup>th</sup> Street Rd                             |
|      | 17 | <b>Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania</b><br>Greater Pennsylvania Regional<br>Council of Carpenters Union<br>650 Ridge Road |
|      | 24 | <b>Wichita, Kansas</b><br>Holiday Inn Select<br>549 S Rock Road   |
|      | 31 | <b>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</b><br>Sheet Metal Workers<br>Union Hall<br>1301 S Columbus Blvd                    |
| Nov  | 14 | <b>Metairie, Louisiana</b><br>Four Points/Sheraton<br>6401 Veterans Memorial Blvd                                 |
| Dec  | 5  | <b>Jacksonville, Florida</b><br>Holiday Inn<br>9150 Baymeadows Road   |

\* Additional conferences will be added to the  
list as dates and locations become available.

**Auxiliary of the  
United Transportation Union  
14600 Detroit Ave 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**