

AUXILIARY of UTU TIMES

REACHING FOR THE FUTURE

Volume 7

A NEW APPROACH

AUGUST 2005

In the past month I have had the great privilege to attend the UTU Regional Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. The beautiful scenery and the youthful spirit of Alaska remind us that we are still a young country trying to find ourselves. It is also energizing to see the same spirit of the union, as the local leaders gather to educate and re-energize themselves, so that they can continue to serve and lead their members.

We, the Auxiliary had our meeting and presented a new approach with an “informational workshop” to educate the spouses with presentations given by each of the vendors who provide benefits to our members. Presenters were the United Health, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, AETNA, Value Option, Railroad Retirement Board, and Medco. Stu Collins, UTU Executive Director of Finance, enlightened us with ideas to help us make our money work for us now and in the future. Hopefully these presentations informed our guests of their benefits so that they can reap the most from what is the best benefit package in the labor industry.

There’s something to be said about getting re-energized; it helps us to move forward, to rededicate ourselves to our organization. How do we do that? - I am still searching for ideas and welcome any suggestions that you may have. With the many new hires on the nation’s railroads it is very important that we welcome and attract the family members of the new hires. Many of today’s new hires have never been around a union

and their families need our help in understanding the importance of the Union and the benefits of the Union. I feel that if we can attract the new hire’s family members to the Auxiliary we can keep members in the UTU. We need to be energized. We are and I am open to your suggestions!

Our families—whether we are bus, rail or air need each other. Our families can help write letters—energize our spouses—give a little push to get members to union meetings. If we are involved our energy spreads, but we have to be the medium to help it spread.

There are many challenges ahead as the UTU fights the Carrier in their efforts to once again reduce crew sizes. These efforts by the Carriers have a profound effect on each of us, as they will affect those that are working and could have a profound impact on the future of railroad retirement. The UTU members will need your help. Remember that the Carriers cannot discipline us. We can and will be a strong voice.

I look forward to meeting all of you. I promise to work hard along with the other officers to grow the Auxiliary and make it a stronger voice. The future is bright. Hopefully we can be the spark of the UTU—I know we can with your help!

In Sisterly Love,
Carol S. Menges
International President

Fantastic Job

I would like to thank the following sisters for the fantastic job they did at the UTU Anchorage Regional Meeting:

Sister Joan Montgomery
International Sec/Treas.
Sister Barbara Duncan
Vice President - District 5
Sister Patricia Shacklette
Vice President - District 6
Sister Charlie Belden
National Legislative Director

Without their help we would not have been able to accomplish what we did during our Auxiliary Meeting and "Spouse Workshop" We were very pleased with our attendance! It is through meetings like this that we can keep members informed as well as hoping to bring about a renewed interest in our organization.

UTU – PAC

The United Transportation Union – Political Action Committee is the UTU's voluntary legislative and political arm.

The Auxiliary supports this effort to help friends in Congress and in the State Legislatures by donating our time and our dollars to this important cause that recognizes the problems that affect the UTU railroad, bus, and airline workers and their families.

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

Lodge No. 28	\$ 50.00
Lodge No. 318	100.00
Lodge No. 932	50.00
Donna Fluke (personal check)	10.00
Joan Montgomery (personal check)	25.00
Alaska Regional Meeting	89.00

When sending in your donation - Please make check payable to:

"United Transportation Union – PAC"

Thank you

A "Big Thank You" goes out to the following supporters for their contribution to our wonderful Scholarship Fund. What a great way to keep this project going for our future generations.

Lodge No. 28	\$ 50.00
Lodge No. 264	100.00
Lodge No. 932	50.00
Donna Fluke (personal check)	10.00
Joan Montgomery (personal check)	25.00
Alaska Regional Meeting	176.29

When sending in your donation - Please make check payable to:

"Auxiliary of the UTU Scholarship Fund"

U. S. Railroad Retirement Board

Will be holding 2005 Informational Conferences at various locations: Registration begins at 8:00 a.m., with program beginning promptly at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 12:30 p.m.

Please check below for dates and locations nearest you:

Sept. 16 **Ft. Worth, Texas**

Holiday Inn South
100 East Alta Mesa Blvd

Nov. 4 **Pineville, North Carolina**

Holiday Inn Express
9825 Leitner Drive

Nov. 18 **Metairie, Louisiana**

Union Hall
3515 N I-10 Service Rd West
(Corner of Severn and I-10
Service Road)

Dec. 9 **Jacksonville, Florida**

Holiday Inn – Baymeadows
9150 Baymeadows Road

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

On June 29, 2005, the U.S. House of Representatives approved the amendments to restore Amtrak funding by a vote of 269-152. The approval would not have happened without the emails, phone calls, and faxes. The amazing part of this whole process was the 73 Republican votes in favor of passage. Notable amongst the 73 Republican votes was that 9 of them came out of the State of Florida. Because of the persistence, dedication and hard work of the Washington, DC office, active State Directors, the retirees and the active Auxiliary members we accomplished something that has never been done before. The 9 votes from Florida is testimony to the effectiveness of grass root efforts in that state.

Soon, the bill will go to the Senate for their consideration and we must once again make those calls, send those emails and faxes to let your Senators know they need to provide full funding for Amtrak. The thousands of phone calls and e-mails from UTU members were crucial to the success of this amendment. They will be again.

If Amtrak is not funded the **full** \$1.2 billion, Amtrak President David Gunn will immediately shut down operations, and if Amtrak operations are shut down:

- up to 4,000 UTU jobs could be lost
- Railroad Retirement could lose 10% of its funding
- Railroad Retirement could face bankruptcy in the future
- Freight rail jobs could be lost
- Some freight would likely be diverted to trucks

Once again, we must convince our Senators to *fully fund* Amtrak.

If you need information on your Senate members, go the home page of

www.utu.org, look to the left column, click on "Washington Updates" and then on "Contacting the Congress." Then click on your state. These are the telephone numbers and e-mail addresses you use. If you don't have email access, you can obtain the information from your UTU and Auxiliary State Directors, the UTU Legislative Office or myself.

Our UTU National Legislative Director, James Brunkenhoefer said, "The calls and e-mails must be made quickly, and making multiple phone calls and sending multiple e-mail messages will be especially helpful."

REMEMBER

1. Contribute to **UTU PAC** - *The best way to help elect representatives that understand the concerns of UTU members.*
2. Start communicating your message.
3. Have your congressional delegation information handy and ready.
4. Gather contact information on Lodge members.
5. Recruit , recruit, recruit

WHERE WE ARE ACTIVE..... WE ARE EFFECTIVE

Yours in Sisterly Love,

Charlie Belden

National Legislative Director

Auxiliary of the United Transportation Union

Phone: 540-972-4627

Fax: 540-972-8067

Email: utuauxnld@aol.com

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Lodge	Name	Date of Death	Lodge	Name	Date of Death
066	Carmen O'Brien	04-09-05	401	Ruby G. Morrow	04-13-05
066	Thelma L. Potts	05-03-05	421	Gladys L. Johnston	03-20-05
066	Orpha V. Wynn	03-23-05	431	Fern Croley	04-17-05
128	Helen J. Oyler	06-15-05	451	Grace Fey	05-01-05
156	Betty Ann Mershon	04-23-05	456	Katherine Wilcox	03-16-05
156	Clovis Tarlton	05-05-05	519	Margaret E. Handel	03-08-05
170	E. Inez Franks	03-23-05	521	Hazel Poole	05-15-05
184	Elnor J. Phelps	05-21-05	583	Mina A. Waddle	04-12-05
197	Eileen M. Franks	04-02-05	592	Margaret M. Porch	04-02-05
204	Helen L. Eshbaugh	06-02-05	609	Donna J. Buckner	05-23-05
204	Virginia M. Rauscher	04-19-05	629	Dorothy M. Lewis	04-19-05
255	Mary L. DeCabooter	05-25-05	642	Anice Hubbard	11-20-04
255	Jessie V. Yost	03-28-05	658	Leone M. McClelland	05-13-05
259	Grace C. Padden	06-08-05	658	Marion D. Nolan	06-03-05
270	Irene L. Anthony	04-08-05	703	Elvina Swanson	04-26-05
305	Gracie M. Booth	04-16-05	732	Ruth Calder	07-07-05
314	Florence D. Karrau	05-09-05	757	Mildred L. Gilbert	06-17-05
314	Stephanie F. MacDonald	05-16-05	778	Ruth E. Lewis	03-26-05
318	Marcelle D. Bean	05-17-05	793	Edythe S. DeBolt	03-25-05
328	Ruth I. Saroka	05-30-05	818	Virginia D. Board	07-25-04
333	Kathleen D. Jackson	01-00-05	840	Viola P. O'Brien	05-22-05
383	Dorothy M. Beard	05-18-05	897	Dorothy Brooks	04-25-05
387	Mary Rogers	04-27-05	897	Betty L. Tharp	04-07-05
391	Florence R. Watkins	03-17-05	948	Mary L. Burt	04-28-05
398	Ruth F. Marsh	04-17-05			

The Legend of the Sand Dollar

There's a pretty little legend
That I would like to tell
Of the birth and death of Jesus
Found in this lowly shell.

If you examine closely
You'll see that you find here
Four nail holes and a fifth one
Made by a Roman's spear.

On one side the Easter Lily
Its center is the star,
That appeared unto the shepherds
And led them from afar.

The Christmas Poinsettia
Etched on the other side
Reminds us of His birthday,
Our happy Christmastide.

Now break the center open
And here you will release
The five white doves awaiting
To spread Good Will and Peace.

This simple little symbol
Christ left for you and me,
To help us spread His Gospel
Through all Eternity.

Unknown Author

Application

Applications are available upon request from January 1, 2006 thru March 1, 2006 at the following address:

**Auxiliary of the UTU
Scholarship Fund
Jo Fink, Secretary
1851 King James Pkwy # 207
Westlake, OH 44145-3427**

Phone: (440) 250-0027

Photocopies of the application form will NOT be honored.

Donations

All donations to the Scholarship Fund are to be made payable to:

**Auxiliary of the UTU
Scholarship Fund**

Send donations to:

**Auxiliary of the UTU
Scholarship Fund
Carol Menges, Treasurer
3617 Schott Road
Jefferson City, MO 65101-9026**

Phone: (573) 635-6415

Supervision

The Auxiliary of the United Transportation Union Scholarship Fund Board will be in charge of overseeing the scholarship program. More details may be obtained by contacting:

**Pat Shacklette, President
125 American Inn Road
Villa Ridge, MO 63089-2153
shackpat@prodigy.net**

Phone: (636) 451-2890

or

**Jo Fink, Secretary
1851 King James Pkwy #207
Westlake, OH 44145-3427**

Phone: (440) 250-0027

**www.utu.org
UTU Auxiliary**

AUXILIARY

of the

***United
Transportation
Union***

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***SCHOLARSHIP
FUND***

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φ 2006 Revision ε

Scholarships

A minimum of eight \$1,000.00 Scholarships are to be awarded annually for a two-year or four-year degree to an accredited college or university.

Eligibility

Scholarships are awarded to applicants drawn from a pool that includes children and step-children and grandchildren and step-grandchildren of living UTU Auxiliary Members in good standing. The Auxiliary member must have Membership of at least one year as of March 31 in the year of the Scholarship application and maintain membership through the duration of the Scholarship award.

Scholarship Requirements

An applicant must have attained at least a high school senior level education, be no more than 25 years of age, and be enrolled as a full time student in an accredited college or university. The student must maintain a yearly 2.0 grade point average.

Awards

The selection of Scholarship recipients is made through a random drawing from the pool of qualified applicants who have submitted applications in accordance with the Foundation's requirements.

Distribution

A minimum of (8) eight Scholarships of \$1,000.00 each will be awarded each school year. The Scholarship is paid directly to the university or college in which the successful applicant is enrolled. The Scholarship award will not exceed four school year periods. Any Canadian student awarded a Scholarship will receive One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) in U.S. funds.

Application Period

Application period for the school year will be January 1 thru March 31. All applications must be postmarked on or before March 31. The Scholarship will be for the fall term of the same year. ***Only one application per applicant will be accepted.**

Information

The application will request the following information:

- The UTU Auxiliary Member's name, address, and Lodge number
- Relationship of student to member
- Student's name, address and date of birth
- College attending
- College year (i.e. freshman, sophomore, junior, senior)
- Signature of Member
- Signature of Student
- Signature of Lodge Treasurer

Photocopies of the application form will NOT be honored.

Drawing

Drawings for all eligible applicants will be held on April 15th for the fall term of the same year. The results of the drawing will be listed in the Auxiliary Newsletter and on the UTU.org web site (UTU Auxiliary Link). ***Only winners will be notified by mail.**

Auxiliary of the UTU Scholarship Fund Board

The Scholarship Fund Board would like to encourage all Lodge Officers to spread the word about this wonderful opportunity that can only be taken advantage by Auxiliary family members.

Included in this newsletter is a copy of our latest brochure. Please take the time to rip the brochure out and pass this information on to all our members.

Scholarship Brochures will be available to any Lodge Treasurer who might want to enclose it in any correspondence to their lodge members (such as with dues receipt). Please let us know the amount of brochures you need and we will be more than happy to send them to you.

BAKE LESS BAKE SALE

A bit of news we have today.
A Bakeless Bake Sale is on the way,
In those busy days, no one could bake,
Pies, or Cookies, or even a Cake?

You would be surprised
If you counted the cost,
Of material, heat, and the time you had lost.
Baking for a Sale is extra work,
Yet nobody wishes to shirk.

So we thought of a plan that is truly grand,
And we feel quite sure you will understand.
In an envelope please put the price
Of a Pie or a Cake or something nice.

Without fuss or bother,
you have done your part,
We are sure you will give
with a willing heart.
This is the end of a little tale,
Wish us success for our Bakeless Sale.

**Use this poem for a car-less "car wash"
just change the wording-Thanks, Sue
Boling for the idea (says it worked great).

"Look – An Angel"

A girl on the street is pointing up at the sky-
"Look, An Angel" she yells!
Passerby laughed, saying
"You fool, that is only a cloud!"

How wonderful it would be to see Angels,
Where there are only clouds.

How sad it would be to see clouds,
Where there are Angels!

Boogie Through Life!

Don't cry because it's over,
Smile because it happened.

Yesterday is history,
Tomorrow is a mystery,
Today is a gift
That's why it's called: The Present.

A good exercise for the heart is to
Bend down and help another up.

Life is what you make of it.....
Kinda like Play-Doh

The bubbling brook would lose its' song,
if you removed the rocks.

Happiness comes through doors,
You didn't even know you left open!

Everything is always okay in the end,
If it's not, then it's not the end.

If all your friends jumped off a cliff,
I wouldn't jump with them.
I would be at the bottom to catch them.

(submitted by: Patricia Shacklette)

LABOR of LOVE

Love and time were the two main ingredients that went into the making of the UTU "*Labor of Love for the Cure*" cookbook. Through this cookbook, UTU International President Paul Thompson and his wife Roberta are honoring two dear friends that died from breast cancer. All proceeds from the sale of the cookbook will be donated to cancer research. As of today, approximately \$15,000.00 has been raised, but the goal has not been met.

This special UTU "*Labor of Love for the Cure*" cookbook is still available through the UTU. The cookbook can be purchased as a gift or for yourself, and your purchase will provide a donation to cancer research as well.

Send a check for \$25.00 (Twenty-five dollars) made payable to **UTU Cookbook** to:

UTU COOKBOOK – CHERYL SNEED
UNITED TRANSPORTATION UNION
14600 DETROIT AVENUE
CLEVELAND OHIO 44107-4250

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone number: _____

Questions?? Call Cheryl Sneed at 216-228-9400, Extension 302.

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

IMPORTANT

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Carol Menges ----- utuauxiliaryintpres@utu.org

Joan Montgomery --- utuauxiliaryints&t@utu.org

UTU.org (link to AUXILIARY)

INFORMATION ENCLOSED