The Federal Railroad Administration is moving to make permanent an October 2008 emergency order restricting the use by on-duty train crews of cell phones and other electronic devices.

A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was published May 18 in the Federal Register, indicating a final rule, supplanting FRA Emergency Order No. 26, is to go into effect not prior to a 30-day public comment period.

The comments will be used by the FRA to make adjustments to the proposed final rule.

Until a final rule is in effect, the FRA's Emergency Order No. 26 will remain in force.

The UTU and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen intend to file joint comments to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

The proposed rule would prohibit the use of an electronic device – whether personal or railroad-supplied – if it interferes with that employee’s or another employee’s performance of safety-related duties.

Railroad operating employees would be permitted to use cell phones or similar electronic devices under highly limited circumstances.

In fact, the UTU and BLET, in joint comments filed with the FRA following issuance of the October 2008 emergency order, sought that exemption.

The proposed rule also provides certain exceptions for watches, calculator use, medical devices, railroad radios, cameras used to document bona fide safety hazards or violations of rail safety laws and various emergency situations – other exemptions the UTU and the BLET suggested following issuance of the October 2008 emergency order.

FRA seeks permanent cell-phone ban

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking specifically asks for comment on whether violation of the final rule should be used as a basis for revoking a locomotive engineer’s certification – or, for that matter, a conductor’s certification once those standards are established pursuant to the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008.

For more information on the FRA emergency order and to keep current, view the “Transportation Safety” page at www.utu.org.

CSX committees seek combined seniority

In response to a CSX notice – served in accordance with Section 4 of New York Dock protective conditions – to consolidate operations in Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states, six general chairpersons have reached a tentative agreement to combine seniority districts into a new Northern Mid-Atlantic Coordinated Seniority District.

The tentative agreement also adopts a single collective bargaining agreement that will greatly enhance work opportunities while preserving prior rights of the affected membership.

Additionally, it also brings the Northern District (Conrail) train crews under the protection of the B&O crew consist moratorium, which is considered one of the strongest in the nation. The Conrail agreement under which the crews are now working has no crew consist moratorium provision.

The tentative agreement has no effect on wages, entry rates, conductor certification pay, health care or other pay-related provisions of existing agreements. Those provisions are governed by the national rail contract currently in negotiations, and Northern Mid-Atlantic Coordinated Seniority District members will receive the pay provisions of an amended national rail contract, in addition to the benefits of the consolidation agreement.

Nor does the tentative agreement include issues that were part of a CSX Southern Lines agreement that recently was accepted by some CSX Southern Lines general committee members and rejected by others.

The parties negotiated a number of substantial improvements otherwise unavailable through a strict application of the New York Dock process.

Such improvements include automatic certification for employees whose jobs are abolished within 90 days of implementation – both before and after an implementation notice is served, plus extension of the B&O crew consist moratorium over the entire Conrail area, preservation of crew consist guarantees for Conrail employees, expanded seniority rights for all over the entire territory while preserving prior rights over an employee’s current seniority district, and many other enhancements.

UTU International President Mike Futhey praised General Chairpersons Bill Beebe (GO 665), George Casey (GO 081), Dick McVeen/Tony Pascarella (GO 619), Dan O’Connell (GO 770) and Bill Wodowski (GO 621) for “putting their members’ interests ahead of their personal interests and doing the right thing.”

If the tentative agreement is ratified, the Northern Mid-Atlantic Coordinated Seniority District will be governed by the B&O System Agreement administered by General Chairperson John Lesniowski (GO 049).

The negotiated tentative agreement creating the Northern Mid-Atlantic Coordinated Seniority District followed a Dec. 2, 2009, notice from CSX of their intent to “consolidate and coordinate train operations, employees and related facilities in the territory covered by the Northern District (former Conrail) and the territory covered by the Eastern District and certain contiguous parts of the Western District (former B&O),” under a single schedule agreement.

The authority for this notice were provisions of the 1998 Conrail carve-up, by which CSX and...
Local 281, Milwaukee, Wis.

Member David Miles participated in the Wounded Heroes Ride last month to assist military personnel wounded in the line of duty, reports CIO 721 General Chairperson Brian Bartlett, whose committee donated $400 to the cause. Motorcyclists rode from Chicago to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., to raise the money pledged to them. Contributions can still be made to the Wounded Heroes Foundation by visiting www.woundedheroesfund.net.

Locals 194 & 1620, Elkhart, Ind.

These two Northeastern locals, on March 30, held a joint meeting to welcome back returning members who had been on furlough. Local 194 Chairperson James Ball reports. Returning brothers and sisters were informed about the FRAs new work-rest program, the importance of reporting safety concerns and the value of contributing to UTU PAC. Ball, Local Chairpersons Tom Masten (194) and Randy Wilcox (1620), Vice Local Chairperson Brian Balog (194) and Legislative Rep. Tim Norman (1620) were in attendance, along with General Chairperson Todd Young and Assistant General Chairperson Jason Bowell. UTUA Field Supervisor Greg Hale was also in attendance to discuss disability and job insurance. “The meeting was well received and our brothers and sisters are happy to be back to work. Some of them chose to become PAC contributors,” Ball said.

Local 533, Osawatomie, Kan.

On April 24, the officers and members of this Union Pacific local held an open house to honor the retirement of Don ”DeWey” Leks, following more than 43 years of railroad and union service, State Legislative Director Ty Drago reports. Lindsey had served as the local’s secretary & treasurer for over 40 years, as well as legislative representative and delegate. For the past 21 years, he served as director of the Kansas State Legislative Board. He was joined by his wife, Judy, daughters Suzanne Barbour and Ericka Hart and their families, and fellow active and retired members.

Local 590, Portage, Wis.

This local will host its annual golf outing and picnic on Aug. 7, according to Secretary & Treasurer Ray Sommerfeld. The golf outing will be at the Baraboo Country Club at 1010 Lake Baraboo St. in Baraboo. The cost for 18 holes of golf and cart is $46 and participants can pay at the clubhouse on the day of the outing. Tee times start at 8:30 a.m. and every nine minutes thereafter. To reserve a tee time for a foursome, please call the Baraboo Country Club at (608) 356-8195. Singles will be paired up. The picnic and pig roast will be held at Sunset Park on W. Pleasant St. in Portage, beginning at 1 p.m.

On Workers’ Memorial Day in Decatur, Ill., Local 453 Chairperson Lloyd Holman speaks to those who gathered at the annual workers’ Memorial Day ceremony.

III. Labor monument honors workers killed on the job

Generations of workers who lost their lives or were injured on the job were remembered across the country on April 28, but due to the efforts of Local 453 Chairperson Lloyd Holman, a monument commemorating the lives lost in Macon County, Ill., will be a daily reminder for generations to come.

The monument rests on the grounds of the Macon County Courthouse in Decatur, Ill., and is a sacred gathering place for many on April 28, referred to as Workers’ Memorial Day.

The first Workers’ Memorial Day was observed by the unions of the AFL-CIO in 1989, and April 28 was chosen because it was the anniversary of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Holman became involved with the Decatur Trades and Labor Assembly’s Workers’ Memorial Day Committee in the late 1990s and was asked to head the committee a short time later.

“There were great people on committee, but the effort stalled,” Holman said. “I was asked if I would get involved because they were anxious to get something started, but fundraising all came to a standstill. After I became chairperson of the committee, six months later we had a monument.”

A granite monument was erected on the courthouse grounds on July 25, 2000, nearly three months after the Workers’ Memorial Day Ceremony. It was dedicated on the city’s Labor Day parade in September 2000 and the first names were displayed near the monument in 2001. Names of the deceased are displayed in a register under a glass case.

The memorial cost some $30,000 and Holman said donations to establish the monument came from individuals and unions, along with a $10,000 state grant that would not have been possible without the aid of state Rep. Julie A. Curry (D-Mount Zion).

“We watch the newspapers so we can document which names go up there,” Holman said. “We contact family members if they want to be there to place a wreath.” Holman said, “Right now, we’ve got 79 names up here,” Holman said. “That’s 79 people who have lost their lives at work, and 79 people who shouldn’t have lost their lives.”

One startling fact Holman noted is that 19 percent of those names are railroaders. Seven were killed in a N&W rail yard explosion on July 19, 1972.

“That incident nearly 36 years ago made some profound changes in how railroaders operate,” Holman said. “It showed that rail yards can be dangerous, whether it is a backyard or near a railroad.”

Additionally, steel couplers on tank cars and more stringent federal regulations on tank cars safety became law,” he said.

“The UTU’s Legislative Department, supported by our UTU PAC (formerly TPEL) was instrumental in helping to bring about those changes.”

Local 903, Jacksonville, Fla.

William K. Russell Sr., 95, whose career spanned 45 years as a conductor for the Seaboard Airline Railroad and the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad, died May 24. UTU Alumni Association Director Carl Cochran reports. He served four years in the U.S. Army as a first lieutenant and finished at the top of his cadet class. He was educated on the local union lodge many times, Cochran said. He is survived by children William K. Russell Jr. and Mary Lou Russell.

Local 933, Jefferson City, Mo.

All active, retired and disabled railroaders from all crafts are invited to attend two days of this local’s festivities in September at the Wardville Lions Club in Wardville, Mo., Local President Denny Menges reports. A fry fish will be held from 4-10 p.m. on Sept. 17, which will be followed by a barbecue luncheon at 12 p.m. on Sept. 18. The luncheon will be held in conjunction with a meeting of the Missouri lodges of the Auxiliary of the UTU at 1 p.m. Chef Menges said.

Local 1074, Freeport, Pa.

Alex Kowalski, the son of conductor John Kowalski and wife, Kathy, was the recipient of a Norfolk Southern Special Scholarship, according to an NS news release. Alex is a graduate of Valley High School in New Kensington, Pa.

Local 1397, Columbus, Ohio

At this CSX local’s annual fish fry on May 12, the UTU’s former Director of Organizing John Nadalini was presented with a plaque wishing him “good health, a long life and a happy retirement,” from his fellow employees, Secretary & Treasurer Robert L. Smith reports.

Nevada ASLD is intern in D.C. legislative office

The UTU assistant state legislative director in Nevada will serve as an intern in the UTU’s former D.C. legislative office in Washington, D.C., this summer.

Jason Doering, 26, a member of Local 1117, Las Vegas, is a native of Dillon, Mont., signing on with Union Pacific as a brakeman in July 2005. At the time, he was attending the University of Montana on a track-and-field scholarship, “I received a call from UP about an application I submitted looking for part-time work,” Jason said. “I was offered a job in Salt Lake City. After brakeman class, I transferred to Las Vegas as a brakeman,” he said. During a furlough, he worked on the Alaska Railroad as a brakeman.

Jason became active in UTU leadership in 2007, working with Program Director Jack Fetters, as an alternate local legislative rep. He later was elected assistant SLD under Nevada SLD Rodney Nelms.

Jason in taking-on line courses in labor relations at Cornell University.

Smeth, left, shakes hands with Nadalini after presenting him the plaque wishing him well in his retirement.
NMB lowers union organizing hurdle

Labor unions will have an easier time organizing workers at U.S. railroad and airline companies if a ruling by the National Mediation Board in May is allowed to stand by federal courts.

The NMB ruling, if it survives a court challenge by the Air Transport Association, will change a 75-year-old rule on union elections, as reported by the Associated Press.

The NMB ruling, if it stands, will be a major victory for unions that have struggled to reverse years of declining membership. And it’s the most significant so far in a string of White House moves designed to boost organized labor.

The new rule, announced by the three-member National Mediation Board, would recognize a union if a simple majority of workers who cast ballots approve organizing.

The previous rule required a majority of the entire work force to favor unionizing. That means a union choosing not to vote at all were effectively treated as “no” votes.

The most immediate impact of the change would be at Delta Air Lines, where unions are trying to organize about 20,000 flight attendants. Unions are also expected to target workers at smaller carriers, including Allegiant Air, JetBlue Airways, Republic Airways and SkyWest.

Airlines that fought the change say it will lead to more labor disputes that could disrupt commerce and increase delays in an industry already reeling from recession, higher fuel costs and stepped-up security hassles.

Proponents of the change say the old rule ran contrary to democratic standards, where the outcome of an election is determined by the majority of those who vote.

The change puts the airline and railroad industries under the same procedures as most other companies, which are overseen by the National Labor Relations Board.

The board proposed the rule change in October, after a request from the AFL-CIO.

That request came soon after President Barack Obama named Linda Puchala — the former head of a flight attendant union — to a seat on the board, shifting the balance of power.

The final rule was approved 2-1, with chairwoman Elizabeth Dougherty issuing a fierce dissent.

Dougherty, who was appointed by President George W. Bush, said the change is “an unprecedented departure for the NMB and represents the most dramatic policy shift in the history of the agency.”

Airlines and railroads employ more than 500,000 workers, and about two-thirds of those are already in unions. That’s much higher than the overall union membership rate of 12 percent.

But one exception to the higher rate is at Delta, where only about 15 percent of workers were union members before the carrier merged two years ago with heavily unionized Northwest Airlines. Unions representing flight attendants and ground workers who worked for Northwest want the new rules to cover elections at the combined carrier.

UTU fighting Santa Cruz, Calif., bus cutbacks

Stewards of the UTU-represented Santa Cruz, Calif., Muni system got news recently of the carrier’s latest recommendations for reducing service by 10 percent, beginning in September, to address a $4-million budget deficit driven by sales tax losses and a ridership drop-off, the San Jose Mercury News reports.

The Metro’s board will vote June 25 on the proposed changes, which call for cutting late-night service and eliminating or reducing trips for more than 20 other routes.

UTU International Alternate Vice President Bus Bonnie Marr, general chairperson of the bus drivers, said the cuts will mean losing the equivalent of 15 driver shifts per day.

Even though the losses will be absorbed through attrition and unfilled vacancies, Marr said the cuts will create more work for drivers and fewer options for customers.

“I don’t think some alternatives are actual alternatives,” Marr said of routes Metro recommends customers take to replace eliminated service. “Nobody likes being in this position. Hopefully, we can start seeing a bright side at some point to public transportation.”

Court rejects charge of race, gender bias

A federal court has rejected the appeal of an Omaha woman who sued Union Pacific, claiming that she was fired as a train dispatcher in 2006 because of discrimination, the Associated Press reports.

A panel of the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals wrote that the reason Kimberly Norman was terminated was her failure to submit a required release form after a long-term disability leave.

Norman, who is African-American, had claimed disability, race and gender discrimination in the lawsuit. She said she had performed her job in an exemplary manner, but was fired following hospitalization and absences due to irritable bowel syndrome that developed after difficult pregnancies. Norman was placed on unpaid leave in 2004 and required to submit to an independent medical examination.

She said in her lawsuit she did not know the evaluation was a mental health exam, and that UP used it to change her diagnosis and disability to a mental health condition, rather than a physical one.

Based on the mental health diagnosis, Norman’s long-term disability benefits were terminated, reinstated upon appeal, then terminated again, the lawsuit said.

Norman’s lawyer also said the railroad refused to make reasonable accommodations for her disability and denied her the opportunity to interview for other positions, while allowing such accommodations for a white, male employee who suffered from a mental illness.

The Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission determined there was no cause to fire her, and the federal EOC gave her the green light to sue. Norman had sought damages for lost wages and benefits, as well as an award of punitive damages.

“Friends of Futhey” hold rally

In threatening letters to UTU officers, the president of the Sheet Metal Workers International Association, who is attempting to force the UTU into an unwanted merger, has referred to “Futhey and friends” — a condescending reference to those supporting UTU International President Mike Futhey in saying “nuts” to SMWIA General President Mike Sullivan.

UTU headquarters employees had their own response to Sullivan, which they delivered May 26 in a show of support for Futhey.

Dozens of UTU staff assembled in the UTU headquarters lunch room May 26 wearing orange and blue T-shirts proclaiming, “FOF,” for “Friends of Futhey.”

Employees said their purpose was to show appreciation to President Futhey for saving union jobs by fighting the SMWIA forced merger attempt.

The event marked what would have been their last days of employment had the SMART merger occurred.

UTU International moves, modernizes

The UTU International has moved to a new location in the Cleveland area, which will result in substantial cost savings and a significant increase in productivity.

The move provides a significant upgrade to UTU and UTUA computer capabilities as the UTU International shifted from an antiquated mainframe to more modern high-speed computer networking.

The new location has the following benefits: A more efficient floor plan that will place UTU International officers and staff in closer proximity; new furniture will replace 40-year-old furniture that was not designed for today’s modern computer networking.

The move also provides a closer access to Interstate 480 and the Cleveland airport will reduce travel costs for those visiting the UTU International. The new location is in walking distance of several hotels and restaurants, which will reduce non-productive time for those traveling to the UTU International for business meetings and training, and improved meeting and conference rooms.

“Although the new office address is on Country Club Boulevard, there is no country club anywhere near the new offices,” said General Secretary & Treasurer Kim Thompson.

The new address is UTU International, 24950 Country Club Blvd., Suite 340, North Olmsted, OH 44070-5333. The main UTU phone number remains (216) 228-9400.

Among the “Friends of Futhey” are, from left, Jeff Weisbath, director of membership services; Charlotte DeArman, billing auditor and chief steward of the UTU International’s OPEIU Local 17 bargaining unit; and Rick Ross, UTU’s director of organizing.

UTU News / www.utu.org
We need training to spot trouble

Train and engine employees are the eyes and ears of every railroad, and most often the first to recognize threats and provide a response. The post-9/11 environment dangers now include foreign terrorist threats as well as home-grown threats by disturbed individuals.

The UTU is currently engaged with Amtrak in seeking federal funds to finance training of conductors, assistant conductors, on-board service personnel and yard employ-

eses to enhance their abilities to recognize behavioral traits of individu-
als intending to engage in terrorist activity. This project will include coordination with the Transportation Security Administration.

Under the leadership of my administrative assistant, Bruce Felt-
meyer (Local 1402, Dupo, Ill.), we have proposed a federally funded joint effort with Amtrak to develop

situational awareness training of Amtrak employees best positioned to recognize impending attacks, whether it be aboard trains, in stations, in yards or along the rights-of-
way.

The core of the project is to produce a security awareness manual for front-line Amtrak employees, presenting various terrorist scenarios and means of recognizing behavioral traits of those intending to cause harm to physical facilities, passen-
gers and Amtrak employees. This manual will be accompanied by a scenario-based video.

Bruce is uniquely qualified. During his years of rail service, he has developed training programs for the on-line UTU University; and, as a Union Pacific employee, he helped to develop customer-service related training materials for conductors and newly hired managers. He also taught business software as an adjunct professor at a St. Louis community college.

As the UTU and Amtrak are painfully aware, millions of dollars are being spent to recognize and prevent terrorist threats at airports and aboard aircraft, but far fewer funds are allocated to protect the nation’s rail, transit and bus infrastructure.

At train, transit and bus stations, passengers routinely board trains and buses with backpacks and luggage that are not screened.

We will enhance the ability of front-line Amtrak employees to recognize threats and report concerns.

By Mike Futhey, International President
(216) 228-9400; president@utu.org

President’s Column

We will enhance our ground-based transportation networks. On a related note, those attending UTU regional meetings in Phoenix and Asheville this summer will have opportunity to attend four-hour workshops hosted by the National Transit Institute of Rutgers University.

Presentations will be made on existing surveillance monitoring techniques and methods of identifying would-be terrorists intent on using explosives, biological chemicals and/or firearms in an attack.

If our joint funding grant is approved, the UTU and Amtrak jointly will build upon efforts to enhance the ability of front-line Amtrak employees to recognize threats and learn how best to report concerns to dispatchers and law enforcement.

A successful joint project with Amtrak could lead to additional labor-management coordination in employee security training with freight railroads, transit operators and bus companies.

Threats exist real and have been carried out against rail, transit and bus operations in other nations. Enhanced security that directly involves front-line employees protects our livelihoods.

The UTU is capable, willing and anxious to play a key role training front-line employees to help protect our ground-based transportation networks.

By offering UTU members and newly hired managers access to Wellness programs promote healthier lives

 utoneuews@utu.org

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James Stem, National Legislative Director
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Contact the UTU

For the latest news, visit www.utu.org; also, sign up on the UTU Web site to receive news alerts via e-mail.

A healthy new direction is within reach for all of us. The UnitedHealthcare wellness programs are focused on educating, engaging and encouraging all railroad members to take the initiative to live a healthier lifestyle.

Health care coverage isn’t just about providing coverage to mem-
ers when an illness occurs. It’s also about providing members with the right programs that support and inspire them to stay healthy. Helping members become aware of their modifiable health risks and engaged in their own personal health can be a great way to affect life-long change.

UnitedHealthcare members may obtain more information or join a wellness program by calling (877) 201-4840; Aetna members may call (800) 642-4044; and Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield members may call (866) 267-3320.

A message to UTU members from UnitedHealthcare
Senior Vice President
Steven Burdick

Rail employees, regardless of medical vendor, have unlimited access to UnitedHealthcare wellness programs

UTU members can also complete a health assessment to identify potential suggestions for a healthier lifestyle. Most important, participation in the wellness pro-
grams may help prevent more serious diseases like diabetes, heart dis-
ease, high cholesterol, and high blood pressure.

The success of the UnitedHealthcare wellness programs for railroad employees and their dependents speaks for itself. More than 3,500 individuals have been coached over the past 21 months. As a result of their resolve to make a change to a healthier lifestyle, they have achieved tremendous success.

Railroad employees who participated in the Healthy Weight Program lost an average of almost 10 pounds per individual – almost 9,000 pounds in total!

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State Watch

Minnesota

The UTU, and others in rail labor, just successfully concluded a two-year legislative effort which will result in improved safety for rail crews, State Legislative Director Phil Quayle reports.

“Most notably, we got passed a railroad crew transport/taxi bill that includes increased carrier liability limits (up from $1.5 million to $5 million per crew van), establishes liability limits for uninsured and under-insured motorists of $1 million, establishes vehicle inspection standards, minimum driver licensure and physical requirements, driver testing, driver hours-of-service limits, and recordkeeping, and background checks,” Quayle said.

“Also, on non-signaled mainline track territory, Minnesota DOT shall apply to the FRA for RSIA track safety technology grants for track switchpoint monitoring signals. This program has an 80/20 federal/carrying match with the right of declaration by the carrier. But, with any declaration, carriers remain fully liable for any incident that may occur thereafter in non-signaled mainline track territory,” Quayle said.

“Also, rail labor will have two members appointed to the commuter rail corridor coordinating committee.

“The UTU has also worked as part of a coalition that supported and gained over $36 million for rail from the legislature. This includes funding for the St. Cloud Northstar extension, Northern Lights Express and St. Paul Union Depot projects,” Quayle said.

“Rail labor can close the two-year legislative session with a positive record of accomplishments that will improve safety for railroad workers in Minnesota,” Quayle said.

Florida, S. Carolina, Georgia

Three UTU state legislative directors recently attended an FRA workshop on the development of a national rail plan.

Florida State Director Andres Trujillo, South Carolina State Director Jack Ramsey and Georgia State Director Howell Keown recently attended meetings to make sure that UTU concerns would be addressed.

The National Rail Plan will lay out a coordinated vision for future development of the nation’s freight and passenger rail networks. A final version of the plan is set to be released in September.

“We made our presence and views known throughout the discussions,” Trujillo said. “Howell told the FRA that safety must be the number-one priority, whether in freight or passenger rail operations. He also spoke of the need for positive train control implementation.

“I spoke on behalf of the group concerning the FRA’s leadership on corridors to ensure reliability and performance of both freight and passenger operators through adequate investment,” Trujillo said. “I also called for every effort to be made to ensure this work is awarded to American manufacturers, creating American jobs and the benefit of investing vast tax dollars in ways that will serve Americans, and create a framework where current manufacturers of equipment in the U.S. are assisted and outfitted with the necessary technology, if needed, to produce the equipment.”

Oregon

UTU members recently attended a Democratic Party fundraiser in Portland. The event is called the “Wayne Morse Dinner” in honor of the late Democratic Party national. Shown above, left to right, are Jim Montgomery (legislative representative, L-1574, Portland); Asst. State Director Greg Boam (L-471, Eugene); Secretary of State Kate Brown; State Director Delmer Hasson and Mike O’Roarke (legislative representative, L-473, LaGrande).

Kansas

State Legislative Director Ty Dragoo (right) recently invited State Rep. Tom Burroughs (House Democrat, District 33) to attend a meeting on the national rail plan in Kansas City. “Burroughs has been instrumental in passing recent legislation that is labor and rail focused,” Dragoo said. “One of my statements was, ‘When we invest in a national rail plan, we invest in America’s future and we invest in American jobs!’”

Michigan

Robbie A. Stevens, the 16-year-old grandson of retired State Legislative Director David Bickey, died May 16.

Surviving are his parents, Chris Robert Stevens and Kristine E. Bickey; sister, Kathryn Elizabeth Stevens; grandparents, Allan (Patricia) Stevens and David (Diane) Bickey, and many others.

Those desiring may make contributions to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, 2100 West Road, Bldg. B, Suite 110, East Lansing, MI 48823, or Special Olympics Area 8, 2901 W. Whidash Rd., Lansing, MI 48910, in memory of Robbie.

For those wishing to send donations or cards and letters of condolence, write to Kristine Bickey, David Bickey’s daughter, at 3142 W. Kipp Rd., Mason, MI 48854.

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ALL NEW, ALL WELDED TRITON BASS BOATS! 2013 Model Year! All new Triton bass boats, 15 foot, weight 800 lbs. $19,000 to $23,000. Twenty (20) available.

All new 2013 Triton Bass Boats with the new 2013 Triton BASS BOAT

Go to www.ultu.org/workzone/2013 its for a new bass boat!

A message to UTU Bus Department members from Alternate Vice President-Bus Bonnie Morr

UTU, AFL-CIO tackle school bus driver issues

The UTU, other labor unions and the Transportation Trades Department (TTD) of the AFL-CIO are jointly tackling workplace training, discipline and other workplace safety and economic issues on behalf of school bus drivers.

Nationwide, school bus drivers face daily challenges in their work, with their employers and with school bus districts.

Not to brag, but the UTU supplied the most comprehensive list of issues that impact school bus drivers. Those issues reveal need for more specialized training, better strategies for preventing students from opening emergency exits while the bus is in motion, installation of electronic alert systems as to when students unfasten their seatbelts, assigning monitors aboard buses, and implementation of a more realistic agility test requirement for drivers.

The UTU also has taken the lead in pushing for improved job security for school bus drivers. Too often, drivers are furloughed because of subcontracting, and disqualified from service without just cause.

Legislatively, the UTU is lobbying for increased and more reliable public funding for school bus operations, limitations on the ability of schools to subcontract driving responsibilities, and to correct legislation that puts a CDL at risk for driver infractions when operating their personal vehicles. The UTU also is fighting limitations on benefits for part-time drivers.

All these issues were discussed in a recent joint conference call hosted by TTD. Besides myself, UTU officers participating in the call included Alternate Director John Reich and New Jersey State Legislative Director Dan O’Connell. A result was creation of a comprehensive list of legislative objectives that will be pursued jointly by the UTU, the AFL-CIO and other TTD-member unions.

www.utu.org / www.utuia.org
UTU honors the men and women of the armed forces

Pictured and listed below are members of the UTU, their children or grandchildren who are or were in active military service in 2009 and 2010. We honor these men and women for their sense of national responsibility and love of country, second only to love of family. The heartfelt contributions they make help ensure the security and liberty of our nation and the way of life we cherish.

Lance Cpl. Ryan G. Hale
Pfc. David A. Gault
Cpl. Kenny Bowen
U.S. Army Back row: Spc. Ryan Young, Sgt. Andy Young, Pfc. Jim Rouleau and
U.S. Army

484th Movement Control Battalion

1st Lt. Jeremy Preston

U.S. Army Reserves

173rd Airborne, Combat Infantry

1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry

Staff Sgt. Timothy Pawlak

U.S. Army

32nd Brigade

Staff Sgt. R. Montgomery Booth

121st Air Refueling Wing

Staff Sgt. Lance R. Doles

U.S. Air Force

Andez Gaston

Army National Guard

Sgt. Maj. William “Joe” Brenton

U.S. Navy

Airman 1st Class Candace M. Chapin

U.S. Air Force

Airman 1st Class Allen Crosey

624 Maintenance Company

U.S. Army

Pfc. Allan A. Gross

73rd Ordinance Battalion

U.S. Army

Staff Sgt. Jesse R. Reyes

U.S. Air Force

Spc. Gail Bauch

U.S. Army

32nd Brigade

U.S. Navy

Airman 1st Class Kathryn E. Stevens

9th Engineer Service Battalion

1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry

Sgt. Maj. William “Joe” Brenton

U.S. Navy

Airman 1st Class Tonya R. Jones

142nd Security Forces Squadron

U.S. Air Force

Cpl. Ashley Welch

U.S. Marine Corps

Sgt. Maj. William “Joe” Brenton

U.S. Army

Staff Sgt. Lance R. Doles

U.S. Air Force

Andez Gaston

Army National Guard

Spc. Gilbert Sotelo III

U.S. Army

Sgt. Allen A. Gross

73rd Ordinance Battalion

U.S. Army

Sgt. 1st Class Allen Cryer

602 Maintenance Company

U.S. Navy

69th Infantry Regiment

Army National Guard

Army National Guard

Michael L. Lewis

Army National Guard

Sgt. 1st Class Allen Cryer

602 Maintenance Company

U.S. Navy

69th Infantry Regiment

Army National Guard

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U.S. Navy

Airman 1st Class Tonya R. Jones

142nd Security Forces Squadron

U.S. Air Force

Cpl. Ashley Welch

U.S. Marine Corps


You think you have seen holiday decorations? You haven't seen anything until you see the Gaylord Opryland hotel and convention center, plus the Grand Ole Opry theater, in Nashville, Tenn., dolled up for the season. Back by popular demand, the UTU is offering members of its Alumni Association a holiday tour they will not soon forget.

The "Country Christmas" tour will take place Tuesday, Dec. 7, through Friday, Dec. 10, at the incredible Gaylord Opryland resort.

The tour includes three nights at the decked-out Gaylord Opryland Hotel; tickets to "The Radio City Christmas Spectacular, starring the world-famous Rockettes," with dazzling scenery, costumes and lighting, at the Grand Ole Opry Theater; tickets to Louise Mandrell's special dinner show, a traditional holiday meal including all the trimmings, served family style, and featuring the multi-talented Mandrell and a talented cast.

The package also includes tickets to "ICE: Nashville's Winter Wonderland," with interactive ice sculptures and displays all hand-carved from two million pounds of ice; the "Treasure for the Holidays," a huge craft show featuring a variety of handmade and novelty gifts, ranging from candles and jewelry to clothing, artwork and food; the "Hall of Trees" holiday-tree display; a coupon book good for discounts throughout the resort; luggage handling, taxes and resort fees.

The cost of the tour, arranged through the UTU Alumni Association's designated travel professionals, Landfall Travel, is $495 per person double occupancy; $415 per person triple; $375 per person quad, and $275 per single.

Parking is an additional $18 per day, if required.

A non-refundable deposit of $120 is due with the reservation. The balance is due Oct. 15. Landfall representatives can also handle requests for air travel, upgraded room accommodations or other special requests.

Call Landfall toll free at (800) 835-9233; check out the Alumni Association page on www.landfalltravel.com or email travel@landfalltravel.com for more information.

Retiree Hageman, 84, re-elected to Ga. city council

UTU retiree John Hageman was recently re-elected to his fourth four-year term as city councilman in Fitzgerald, Ga.

This is not surprising, since the 84-year-old Hageman's forefathers helped found the town back in 1897.

Fitzgerald is a town of about 9,500 residents in south central Georgia. Hageman started railroading in 1950 as a trainman on the Atlantic Coast Line, now part of CSX.

He retired in 1988 after 38 years of service. He is a lifetime member of Local 1790, Fitzgerald.

"I am an energetic person, always have been," he said. "After I retired in 1988, a job came open on the city council, and I have always said I would try anything once.

"I am a direct descendent of those who founded Fitzgerald in 1895, so I ran for the office. I was up against some big odds; I ended up running against and defeating the son of my lawyer.

"Landfall is actually a Yankee town in south Georgia," Hageman explained. "A Union Army drummer boy, PH. Fitzgerald from Indianapolis, got out after the war and wanted to create a place in the south where aging Union Army veterans could enjoy the warmer winters and have a good place to live out their years.

"My great grandfather was a Union Army veteran out of Indiana, and he was one of the original 2,500 who helped found this town.

"I just enjoy working and doing something for somebody," he said. "If they come to me with a problem, I try to help them out.

"Mayor Gerald Thompson has been in office 42 years here, and we were both just re-elected to four more years.

"My campaign slogan was 'Four more at 84.' It has been very rewarding; I have no regrets whatsoever."

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**The Final Call**

Following are the names of recently deceased members who maintained annual membership in the UTU Alumni Association (formerly known as the UTU for Life Program), according to reports received at UTU International Headquarters. These brothers and sisters will be missed by their many friends and by fellow UTU Alumni Association members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City/State</th>
<th>Local</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City/State</th>
<th>Local</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City/State</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Elliott, Donald H.</td>
<td>Loganport, Ind.</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>Escalona, Arthur</td>
<td>Chicago Ridge, Ill.</td>
<td>1292</td>
<td>Herald, Virgil H.</td>
<td>Duluth, Minn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Sawyer, Erbie B.</td>
<td>Troutville, Va.</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>MacKerrith, Chester</td>
<td>Cumberland, Md.</td>
<td>1299</td>
<td>Kroment, Lawrence J.</td>
<td>Indianapolis, Ind.</td>
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<tr>
<td>243</td>
<td>Hart, Theodore</td>
<td>Fort Worth, Texas</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>North, Robert H.</td>
<td>Evington, Va.</td>
<td>1529</td>
<td>Show, Howard A.</td>
<td>Oregon, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>471</td>
<td>Andreasson, Dan L.</td>
<td>Pattonsburg, Mo.</td>
<td>1136</td>
<td>Hayes Jr., James L.</td>
<td>Duluth, Minn.</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Place, George J.</td>
<td>Mandan, N.D.</td>
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<td>471</td>
<td>Heffentrager Jr., G.H.</td>
<td>Veneta, Ore.</td>
<td>1092</td>
<td>Watson, Norman K.</td>
<td>Mexia, Texas</td>
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<td>520</td>
<td>Royle, Floyd E.</td>
<td>Grand Junction, Colo.</td>
<td>1202</td>
<td>Hulbert, Arlie E.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne, Ind.</td>
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www.utu.org / www.utuia.org
Advice from the UTU's medical consultant on eating healthy and living longer

Quot smoking, lose weight and you will feel better

By Dr. Norman K. Brown

UTU Medical Consultant

Hold the ketchup. Did you know that ketchup contains fructose, a processed sugar? I'll get back to this shortly.

Many of our common diseases are aggravated by – or even caused by – the way we live, especially how we eat, how much we exercise, and if we use tobacco.

Michelle Obama repeated what her daughters’ pediatrician said: “Your girls are carrying more body fat than is truly good for them.” She is now using the phrase “treating an improved diet for all Americans, and good for her.

A recent medical study determined that people who eat better quality diets (less meat, more fruits, vegetables and whole grain bread), have a lower body mass index (a measure of the waist compared to height), exercise regularly and do not smoke have a significantly lower incidence of heart disease, strokes and cancer, and live a longer life.

Medical studies document that table sugar and high fructose corn syrup, such as those found in many processed foods, including ketchup and soft drinks, appear to play a role in triggering weight gain and the onset of diabetes as they create a continuous craving for more calories. My theory is that this is because the molecules in table sugar, and its chemical cousin, fructose, race from your intestine to your blood stream.

Of course, we all receive a pleasant jolt of energy and optimism after eating sugar. If we burn it up in a workout quickly, then fine – our bodies won’t have so much work processing it, or turning the leftovers into fat. But the truth is most of us don’t burn up table sugar and high fructose sweeteners quickly in workout.

Medical studies also document that if we reduce daily salt intake by one-third of a teaspoon, we can reduce the incidence of strokes and heart attacks as much as restricting the intake of cholesterol from meats and tobacco products. A lot of our salt, which can raise blood pressure, comes not only from the salt shaker, but also from processed foods, soft drinks including diet drinks, and restaurant meals. High blood pressure contributes to many body problems over time, as we all know.

We are surrounded by so much good tasting food, along with advertising to remind us, that we have to work very hard every day to improve the quality of our diet. It’s drudgery to improve our diets, but the result on improved health and a longer life span is good reason to eat what we need to stay healthy rather than what is fun to eat.

Yes, I hear you saying, “Okay, okay, if I do everything you are telling me, I will live to be 100, but I will be miserable.” Excel lent. Now I have your attention. Let’s make a change in the way. You become one-half perfect on this program of improving the quality of your diet, but also include some foods that are fun to eat. Serve for the rest of your life some foods that are fun to eat. In doing so, I promise you will feel better in your mind and body on the way there. It’s not easy. I struggle every day to meet my own goals halfway.

Improving my life style is hard work, but we can do it, and be happier for it over the long haul. I want UTU members to be in the front of this newly forming American parade, not bringing up the rear.”

Please think about it. The life you save will be your own. And your loved ones will be grateful for your effort.

UTUIA congratulates scholarship winners

The following students have been awarded scholarships from the United Transportation Union Insurance Association. Fifty continuing $5000 scholarships are awarded each year to UTU members, their sons and daughters.

District 1: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont


District 2: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania


District 4: Indiana, Michigan, Ohio

Danielle E. Gerdes, granddaughter of Shirley Allen Jr., Local 440, Sharonville, Pa.; David J. Williams, son of Larry E. Williams, Local 1709, Pontiac, Mich.; Nicholas T. Lough, son of Dan J. Lough, Local 6686, Cleveland; Christopher Carter, grandson of Dwayne R. Carter, Local 145, Columbus, Ohio; Frank A. Deluca, son of Jesse R. Deluca, Local 448, Youngstown, Ohio.

District 5: Illinois, Wisconsin


District 6: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas

Allison J. Drzymala, daughter of Raymond F. Drzymala, Local 867, San Antonio; Kayell E. Self, daughter of Glen E. Self, Local 1448, DeQueen, La.; Justin R. Baker, son of Robert P. Baker, Local 1482, San Antonio; Amore E. Ortega, granddaughter of Charles L. Primo, Local 794, Tulsa, Okla.; Kimberly A. Green, daughter of Louis P. Green, Local 1092, Taqua, Texas.

District 7: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota


District 8: Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah


Adaptation by: John T. Logue, Managing Editor
Breast cancer screening vital to good health

The screening for breast cancer (mammograms) is essential for good health, and UTU members need to be aware that they and their loved ones can receive these screens easily.

Breast cancer is the most common non-skin cancer in women and the second leading cause of cancer death in women in the United States. Every woman is at risk, and this risk increases with age. Breast cancer can usually be successfully treated when found early.

Medicare covers screening mammograms and digital technologies for screening mammograms to check for breast cancer before you or a doctor may be able to feel it.

Who is covered? All women with Medicare age 40 and older can get screening mammogram every 12 months. Medicare also pays for one baseline mammogram for women with Medicare between ages 35 and 39.

How often is it covered? Once every 12 months.

Your costs in the original Medicare plan: You pay 20 percent of the Medicare-approved amount with no Part B deductible.

Are you at high risk for breast cancer? Your risk of developing breast cancer increases if you:
- Had breast cancer in the past;
- Have a family history of breast cancer (like a mother, sister, daughter, or two or more close relatives who have had breast cancer);
- Had your first baby after age 30;
- Have never had a baby;
- Used hormone replacement therapy (HRT) for a long period of time after menopause;
- Have two or more alcoholic drinks every day;
- Are overweight or obese, especially if you gained weight during adulthood;
- Don’t exercise.

Risk for breast cancer increases with age. It is important to continue with screening, even if you were screened once covered Medicare.

(This information was provided by Palmeto, a subsidiary of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of South Carolina.)

Automatic withdrawal option best for higher premiums

By making premium payments through automatic check withdrawal, UTUA policyholders will save both themselves and the UTUA the cost of postage, as well as the costs associated with paper billings and processing.

Likewise, policyholders who pay policy premiums of $5 or less by mail on a monthly or quarterly basis are urged to consider paying their premiums annually or semi-annually.

By holding down costs, UTUA can continue to provide valuable coverage at the lowest rates possible.

If you prefer your current payment method, UTUA recommends a simple conversion to a semiannual or annual payment plan.

“We thank all of our policyholders in advance for their consideration in helping UTUA keep its costs down for all of our members,” UTUA Director of Insurance Tony Martella said.

Those interested in switching their payment plan to automatic check withdrawal should contact the UTUA’s Direct Billing Department, toll-free, at (800) 558-8842, Ext. 3600 or 3601.

Motorcycle ride set for Phoenix

Another Scott Belden memorial motorcycle ride, to benefit UTU PAC, will take place at the coal mine region. The Scott Belden ride will be held Sunday, July 25, through Skull Valley with lunch in Prescott, according to State Legislative Director Greg Hynes.

Those wishing to rent motorcycles should call Eagle Rider at (480) 970-0120 and ask for Cameron; mention you are with the UTU. A motorcycle endorsement is required, and white shirts, motorcycle helmets and participants are strongly advised to bring their own helmet or arrange for a rental of a pro-active helmet.

(The ride in Asheville, N.C., will be held Sunday, Aug. 22, on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Those wishing to rent motorcycles should go to www.carolinemotorcylerentals.com, phone number (866) 590-0179. Be sure to mention your affiliation with UTU. A motorcycle endorsement is required, as is a helmet.)

The UTU International Staff: Here to serve you

BRUCE FELTMeyer
Bruce Feltmeyer has served as administrative assistant to the UTU International President since 2008. He served 25 years at the local (L-1452, Daggs, Ill.) and general committee (Union Pacific) levels, including six years facilitating training at UP. He develops online training, writes grant proposals and serves as the First Division member at the NBIA. He enjoys serving the community, especially advancing education. My experience working in labor and management makes me appreciate how the UTU serves its members as a first-class labor organization. I love all sports and have been accused of having a rather competitive nature.

AMY RAYNER
Amy Rayner is an accounting representative in the Accounting Department. She started in the position in May 2008. “My main responsibility consists of paying and filing all of the taxes withheld from employees paid by the UTU International, and at the end of the year I issue W-2 income tax forms. I also handle workers’ compensation payments for UTU members and international employees. I send out the monthly GSS&T reports. I also process payroll forms submitted by the locals and forward that information to the Railroad Retirement Board. The UTU provides a wonderful working environment and I look forward to my future here.”

RICK GRABER
Rick Graber is an updating/auditing representative in the insurance association’s Direct Billing Department. He started in the file room in 1998 and has held a variety of jobs within the organization. “I handle the bills sent to UTUA policyholders. I mail out between 3,000 and 7,000 bills a month and process/update insurance payments, account reconciliations, billing payments, account refunds, move members from treasurers billing to direct billing, and field calls from insured members to assist them. I also help UTUA field supervisors as necessary. My job takes me in many directions and brings new challenges everyday. I enjoy my job immensely.”

Hazmat course offered at regional meetings

UTU members who work around hazardous materials are encouraged to attend an all-day hazardous material awareness course being conducted by the Hazmat Hazardous Material Training Program from the National Labor College (NLC) the day prior to the start of Phoenix and Asheville regional meetings.

Trainers from the program – North Carolina State Legislative Director Dickie Westbrook, International Representative for Strategic Planning and CSX District Safety Chairperson Billy Myoe, CSX-SCL (GO-851) Vice General Chairperson Yvonne Hayes and Local 1886 President and Legislative Representative Charlie Jones – will oversee the course.

“UTU members will learn more in this workshop than the railroads will teach them in their entire careers,” Westbrook said. “We will condense almost everything from a five-day hazmat course into an eight-hour course.”

The courses will be held Sunday, July 25, in Phoenix, and Sunday, Aug. 22, in Asheville beginning at 8:00 a.m. Because space is limited, early registration is suggested. There is no cost.

To enroll, send your name, local number, e-mail address and telephone number, to Hazmat. The UTU will contact the Regional Meeting, 24950 Country Club Blvd., Suite 340, North Olmsted, OH 44070-5333.
Regional meetings offer education, fraternalism

The 2010 UTU/UTU/UTA regional meetings have been designed to provide a wide array of fraternalism, lots of worthwhile education and tons of fun for the whole family.

As before, each regional meeting will run for 2 1/2 days, ending early on the afternoon of the third day. The evening of the first day has been left open so you, your family and friends will be free to explore and enjoy the many offerings of the regional meeting sites.

Reservations, registration and hotel reservations can be made online by visiting www.utu.org and clicking on the “Meetings” link in the blue menu bar at the left-hand side of the UTU homepage.

At these meetings, the regional meetings must be registered in order to attend any planned social function. Children ages 11 and under who are pre-registered are complimentary. The registration form is printed on the right.

The pre-registration fee for the 2010 regional meetings is $150 per member (spouse or child over age 11). Additional fees apply for the golf outings and spouse tours. You must make your own room reservations, and plan when registering. Tours and meals are booked first come, first served.

The $150 registration fee covers all workshop materials; a welcoming reception the night before the meeting; three lunches and one evening meal. Those wishing to attend only the workshops do not need to complete the registration fee. No-one-day registrations are offered.

A completed registration form listing each attendee, regardless of age, and complete payment in U.S. funds must be received at the UTU International, 24960 Country Club Blvd., Suite 340, North Olmsted, OH 44070-5333, 10 days prior to the scheduled start of the meetings or the registrant will be charged the on-site registration fee of $200.

You may cancel your regional meeting registration 10 days prior to the first day of the meeting or the golf outing without penalty. Please fax any changes or cancellations immediately to the UTU International at (216) 228-6755.

PHOENIX, JULY 26-28
ARIZONA BILTMORE RESORT & SPA
2400 E. MISSOURI AVE.
PHOENIX, AZ 85016
WWW.ARAZONABILTMORE.COM

Hotel reservations: (800) 950-0086 toll free; (602) 955-6600 direct; (602) 381-7600 fax
Reservation code: UTU/UTA
Daily room rate: $120 single/double, plus tax; rates good for three days before and after the meeting, depending upon availability
Reservation deadline: June 23, or until all rooms are booked
Parking: Valet only; $12.50 per night; Self: $6
Golf outing: The regional meeting golf outing will be held Sunday, July 25, at the Arizona Biltmore Golf Club. The cost is $80 per golfer, which includes transportation, golf, lunch and more.

ASHVILLE, N.C., AUG. 23-25
GROVE PARK INN RESORT & SPA
290 MACON AVE.
ASHVILLE, NC 28804
WWW.GROVEPARKINN.COM

Hotel reservations: (800) 438-5800 toll free; (828) 252-2711 direct; (828) 210-7903 fax
Reservation code: 6863AM
Daily room rate: $130 single/double, plus tax; rates are good three days before and after the meeting, depending upon availability
Reservation deadline: July 10, or until all rooms are booked for UTU are reserved
Parking: Valet: $25 per day; Self: free
Golf outing: The regional meeting golf outing will be held Sunday, Aug. 22, at The Grove Park Inn Golf Course. The cost is $80 per golfer, which includes transportation, golf, lunch and more.

DISCOUNT AIRFARES, CAR RENTALS
Continental Airlines is offering discounted airfares to UTU members and others attending the Phoenix and Asheville regional meetings. See the “Meetings” page of the UTU Web site, www.utu.org, for details.

The UTU also has arranged with Avis Rent-a-Car to offer discounted rates to UTU members attending the 2010 regional meetings. To reserve a car, contact Avis at 1-800-331-1600 and use the UTU’s Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number: D150699. Or reserve online at www.avis.com.

TWO SPONSORED TOURS

The UTU is arranging two different tours of local attractions at both regional meetings. The tours will take place the day before, as well as the first day of, each regional meeting. Fares range from $35 per person for the spouse, guest or child, or $75 per unregistered spouse, guest or child. Check out www.utu.org for complete details.

PHOTOGRAPHS

If you have photographs of the 2010 regional meeting that you would like to share, send them to: UTU Communications, 24960 Country Club Blvd., Suite 340, North Olmsted, OH 44070-5333. Photos will be considered for use in the UTU News and will be returned. If you have questions, consult your bank. Registration forms with payment must be received at the UTU International 10 days prior to the start of the meeting for the member/spouse to be considered pre-registered.

Which regional meeting will you be attending? ☐ Phoenix ☐ Asheville

Member registration

Name: ___________________  Local: ___________________  Title: (if any) ___________________
Home address: ___________________  City/State/ZIP: ___________________
Phone number: ___________________  Email: ___________________

Meals: Day 1: ☐ Lunch ☐ No meal ☐ Other ☐ Any dietary restrictions?
Day 2: ☐ Lunch ☐ Dinner ☐ Both ☐ No meals
Day 3: ☐ Lunch ☐ No meal ☐ Other ☐ Any dietary restrictions?

Spouse registration: ☐ Phoenix ☐ Asheville

Spouse name: ___________________  Local: ___________________  Title: (if any) _____________

Meals: Day 1: ☐ Lunch ☐ No meal ☐ Other ☐ Any dietary restrictions?
Day 2: ☐ Lunch ☐ Dinner ☐ Both ☐ No meals
Day 3: ☐ Lunch ☐ No meal ☐ Other ☐ Any dietary restrictions?

Child registration: ☐ Phoenix ☐ Asheville

Child name: ___________________  Age: _____________

Meals: Day 1: ☐ Lunch ☐ No meal ☐ Other ☐ Any dietary restrictions?
Day 2: ☐ Lunch ☐ Dinner ☐ Both ☐ No meals
Day 3: ☐ Lunch ☐ No meal ☐ Other ☐ Any dietary restrictions?

Child name: ___________________  Age: _____________

Meals: Day 1: ☐ Lunch ☐ No meal ☐ Other ☐ Any dietary restrictions?
Day 2: ☐ Lunch ☐ Dinner ☐ Both ☐ No meals
Day 3: ☐ Lunch ☐ No meal ☐ Other ☐ Any dietary restrictions?

Guest registration: ☐ Phoenix ☐ Asheville

Guest name: ___________________  Relationship to member: ___________________

City/State/ZIP: ___________________

Meals: Day 1: ☐ Lunch ☐ No meal ☐ Other ☐ Any dietary restrictions?
Day 2: ☐ Lunch ☐ Dinner ☐ Both ☐ No meals
Day 3: ☐ Lunch ☐ No meal ☐ Other ☐ Any dietary restrictions?

Tour: ☐ Sunday or ☐ Monday ($35 per registered child; $75 per unregistered child) No. attending: _____________

Golf registration: ☐ Phoenix ☐ Asheville

Name: ___________________  Handicap: _____________

Name: ___________________  Handicap: _____________

Golf fees are $80 per golfer; include in total payment. Please provide names of others if foursome.

Payment options

Check/money order enclosed (U.S. funds only) $ ___________________
Credit card: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Other
Card number: ___________________ Exp. date: _____________
Total charged $ _____________

Signature: ___________________

Should additional space be needed, make copies of this form and attach to the original. This form and payment of $150 per person over the age of 11, plus golf registration fees of $80 per golfer (if applicable) and spouse/guest tour fees (if applicable), must be received at the UTU International, 24960 Country Club Blvd., Suite 340, North Olmsted, OH 44070-5333, 10 days prior to the regional meeting for the member/spouse to be considered pre-registered. Make checks or money orders payable in U.S. funds to "UTU Regional Meeting." Those who do not pre-register for the regional meeting but choose to register at the meeting site will be charged a $50 penalty fee. Space on the tours is limited; reservations are first-come, first-served.
A bill regulating pesticide spraying by railroads has been signed into law by the governor of Wisconsin.

The UTU has been lobbying for such legislation, and Wisconsin State Legislative Director Tim Deneen, who worked closely with Wisconsin lawmakers, credits the UTU PAC for the success of the bill’s passage.

The new law requires railroads operating in Wisconsin to inform railroad employees of their use of pesticides.

It also prohibits a railroad from requiring an employee to work in an area to which a pesticide has been applied within 24 hours of the application of the pesticide.

Railroads must also furnish equipment to protect the health of an employee from the adverse effects on pesticides applied.

Too often, train, engine and yard crews have reported being sprayed directly while walking around the end of cars and even while in the cab with the windows open.

Unfortunately, the railroads too often provided only minimum notice – if any – of pesticide spraying.

Additionally, the legislation instructs the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture to establish rules limiting the times and weather conditions in which pesticides may be applied by railroads. Rail employees are to be provided a list of the pesticides that will be used, including ingredient statements and the known long-term and short-term effects on humans of such pesticides.

Also to be made public is the name, training and contact information for each commercial applicator railroads hire to apply pesticides.

Wis. railroaders gain pesticide protection

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