Transit is a civil right

What's next... for mass transit, for working families, for justice?

President Obama reflects on the legacy of Rosa Parks at the seat on which she defied the Alabama law that said African-Americans could only sit in the back of the bus, propelling a civil rights firestorm that continues to this day.
**Transit ridership up in the U.S. and Canada:** It will come as no surprise to ATU members that more people are riding mass transit and want better access. A Canadian Urban Transit Association report found transit ridership continued to grow with an increase of 3.2 percent. Meanwhile in the U.S. ridership was up 2.6 percent. “The numbers don’t lie; more people are riding public transportation everyday and want more access,” said International President Larry Hanley. “Lawmakers need to recognize that we must invest to meet this rising demand.”

**ATU Local 1229 fights Acadian Bus Lines takeover:** Local 1229 is calling the takeover of Acadian Coach Lines bus routes by the Maritime Bus Company “unfair” to passengers and workers because of the reduced service the company plans. “This takeover shows great disregard for the devoted employees of Acadian Bus Lines and for the public who deserve for this service to continue,” says Local 1229 President Glenn Carr. Acadian blamed its decision to stop service on a “lack of profit.”

**Investment in public transit can help fight climate change:** Superstorm Sandy’s disastrous effects serve as a reminder that climate change is still a vital issue. That’s why President Hanley teamed up with Bill McKibben of 350.org – an organization working to fight global warming – to address the issue in Huffington Post. Their plan shows how stopping transit cuts, redirecting federal investment to expand U.S. transit, and making transit free would decrease our nation’s carbon emissions.
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HURRICANE SANDY APPEAL

ATU, LABOR TO CONGRESS: RAISE TAXES ON THE RICH, AID MIDDLE CLASS

VICTORIOUS! ATU HELPS PUT OBAMA OVER THE TOP

UNPRECEDENTED ATU CAMPAIGN SUCCESSFUL
HELP NEEDED FOR MEMBERS STILL SUFFERING EFFECTS OF HURRICANE SANDY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS, STEVE!

YOU TOO, MARY! YOU KNOW, WE'RE REALLY LUCKY THE HURRICANE MISSED US.

HURRICANE SANDY? THAT WAS WEEKS AGO. WHAT MADE YOU THINK ABOUT THAT?

WELL, A LOT OF OUR MEMBERS WERE HIT HARD AND ARE STILL STRUGGLING. A MEMBER OF OUR LOCAL 1181 AND HIS SON DIED.

THAT'S HORRIBLE. IT MUST BE HARD TO HAVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPEN ESPECIALLY DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

YEAH, WELL, 20 MEMBERS LOST THEIR HOMES, SO THEY'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE MUCH OF A HOLIDAY ANYWAY.

ISN'T ANYBODY DOING ANYTHING TO HELP THEM?

OH, YEAH — IN FACT, I JUST CONTRIBUTED TO THE ATU DISASTER RELIEF FUND TO HELP THEM REBUILD.

I WISH I COULD GIVE TOO, BUT I CAN'T AFFORD IT WITH ALL THE HOLIDAY SHOPPING I HAVE TO DO.

YOU KNOW, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GIVE A LOT. EVEN $10 MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

TEN DOLLARS? THAT'S NOT SO BAD. I CAN SPARE THAT MUCH TO HELP MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN NEED.

GREAT! IT'S EASY TO DONATE ONLINE AT WWW.ATU.ORG. YOU'LL FEEL GOOD YOU GOT INTO THE REAL SPIRIT OF THE SEASON!

YOU CAN DONATE BY CREDIT CARD BY VISITING WWW.ATU.ORG
With courage, commitment, and compassion ATU members met the challenges of 2012. In the past year alone, the Union rushed to help victims of a storm that ravaged the east coast, privatization in Canada, battled anti-labor legislation in the midwest, and fought to elect a president who will stand up for us. Labor unions are the economic power tools of struggling working people. We serve no purpose if we are not fighting every day to make the lives of the poor and the middle class better.

Our job is to organize power and this year many ATU members stepped up and made their Union more powerful. My hat is off to you – the ATU volunteer. Our efforts this year to encourage our passengers to vote were truly extraordinary and will mark the beginning of the transformation of our Union.

President Obama, re-elected with the blood, sweat and hopes of so many working people has already taken a bold stand in Michigan for workers and their organizations. We thank President Obama and hope that, freed from ever again having to run in an election, he will continue to boldly lead the United States.

I spent Election Day in a van at a public housing project in Cleveland, OH, helping get voters to the polls. A woman jumped on and thanked us for the ride. She said, “I have a car, but I can’t afford the gas.” The polling place was about a mile and a half away. By my quick calculation, this meant that she could not afford the fifty cents or so it would take for her to vote. This reminded me that America has turned its back on growing armies of the poor among us.

There is no public discussion about poverty in America except the one in which rich people who hate paying their fair share of taxes gripe about more people using food stamps and other public assistance.

If you watch networks like CNBC or FOX you will see the angry millionaires attacking the poor almost daily. A recent column I read in Crains New York – a ruling class journal if there ever was one – told of the fierce competition to rent Manhattan apartments with starting rates of $50,000 a month.

The people who can afford these rents should be shamed by the fact that more children sleep each night hungry than ever in our history. They are no more embarrassed than Marie Antoinette who, when told the poor had no bread, said, “let them eat cake.”

This is our business – it is why we exist as unions. Many of our members struggle every day just to feed their kids and in the broader, less fortunate ranks of our society – where people have no jobs and no unions – it is worse.

I promise all our members to renew this Union’s mission in 2013 to work on your behalf. But I ask you also to be mindful that whatever we have – our wages, our healthcare, our retirement security – is derived from the society around us, and the communities we build. We cannot hide in the fortress of ATU. We must work for a better social contract that lifts up all people and demands that those who benefit most from all our work share the wealth.

Dr. King said, “We cannot walk alone.” All of our lives are woven into, and from the lives of those who share our time on earth.

In 2012 we fought hard to put transit on the national agenda. We must spend 2013 making it clear, as Rosa Parks did, that transit is a civil right.

“.I believe that, as long as there is plenty, poverty is evil. Government belongs wherever evil needs an adversary and there are people in distress who cannot help themselves.”

— Robert F. Kennedy Speech, Athens, Georgia, May 6, 1961
CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!
TOGETHER WE WON!!

What an election! What an effort!

Kudos to everyone and thank you to International President Hanley, and our Executive Board for leadership above and beyond anything our Union has seen in recent history. And congratulations to all of our members who carried out a successful program that we will continue to pursue in both the U.S. and Canada.

What we all experienced under the International President’s leadership, especially during the last several months, was a unique and new way of doing things that absolutely gets the job done. The results were astonishing.

Victory

The U.S. victory is particularly sweet because it brought the ATU family together from every corner of North America to campaign during a time in which the Union was being attacked like never before. But no matter what, we kept saying “Together We Can Win!” and “Together We Will Win!”

We had victories in one U.S. battleground state after another – Ohio, Florida, Colorado, Wisconsin, Michigan, Nevada and the others – in spite of the disruptions caused by Hurricane Sandy (we’ll address that a little later).

Mitt Romney, Paul Ryan and the wealthiest 2% of America couldn’t believe what we accomplished together. They’ll never understand that you are the reason we were so successful. And that you are the reason we will continue to get things done!

HEY, TOGETHER WE WON!

You can take a little breather, now – but, not for long. The 2% will never stop, so stay tuned, and be ready. With your help next year and every year thereafter, this program will work.

Our members in need

Now, we can concentrate a lot more on helping our sisters and brothers devastated by Hurricane Sandy. This storm destroyed a lot of our members’ property, wiped out homes and even took lives. They need your love, support and prayers, now, more than ever.

I received many calls during the last week of the campaign, especially from our sisters and brothers in Canada and out west, asking what they could do for the hurricane victims. We asked them to send their love, financial support, and prayers to those in need.

They may never know how timely their donations were for some of our members who were at the end of their rope.

And so I’m asking you and every member who has not done so, now, to donate whatever you can to our members who have lost almost everything because of Hurricane Sandy. And, for all of them, “Thank You!”

In closing, we hope everyone has a Blessed and Happy Holiday Season, and please take a few moments to say a prayer for all of our ATU family members affected by this terrible tragedy. 🕊

In Solidarity,

Bob and Teresa Baker & Family
The first thing I want to say is “Thank you!” Thank you to all who participated in our U.S. Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV) effort. Thank you for helping us elect more pro-transit and pro-union candidates to office – including President Obama and Vice President Biden. And thank you for helping us pass so many transit ballot measures across the United States.

You helped us undertake the largest and most effective GOTV campaign in our history, so it isn’t surprising that pundits across the political spectrum credit ATU and Labor’s “ground game” as a major reason, if not the reason many candidates were elected, and transit measures passed.

The work that you did during this election campaign will serve as a template for our future campaigns not just in the United States, but in Canada as well.

How did it happen?

You got up early on your days off to pass out literature at bus stops and train stations, and convinced riders and sympathetic groups to join us in the fight.

You phone-banked and knocked on doors. You got people registered, and took them to the polls. And you endured the insults and rude comments of some who seemed to have nothing but hatred in their hearts for the president and progressives in general.

Nevertheless, you persisted, you voted, and you shocked America with election results that were anything but predictable.

Correcting a big mistake

The second thing I want to say is, “It’s time to get back to work.” Let me explain:

After the historic U.S. election of 2008, Labor thought it could simply sit back and watch Congress pass legislation that would defend and extend the rights of working people.

That was a big mistake.

This year, we dare not allow the most effective political operation we’ve every built to atrophy through disuse. We need to go back to work.

Member activists ‘ redeployed’

So International President Hanley redeployed our U.S. member activists to pressure the lame duck Congress not to cut Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, or mass transit as part of any “grand bargain” to balance the budget.

This network will grow and continue to work in 2013, when Congress will make decisions no less critical to the future of our Union and our country. So you can see that this coalition and political network have already become an essential and on-going part of our U.S. operation, and will serve as a basis for our planning in Canada.

If you have not already done so, I urge U.S. members to make similar, on-going monthly contributions to the ATU-COPE fund that supports our political activities. And please consider joining your fellow members in this new and exciting volunteer effort. It’s a great experience. You can find out more information at: www.atu.org

Happy New Year

I hope that you have had a wonderful holiday season and offer you the best wishes from my family to yours for a happy and healthy new year.
Canadian Agenda

Liberal premier quits, suspends Ontario parliament

It may be a sign of the times that Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty’s shocking October announcement that he would resign was not the biggest surprise he had in store for Canada’s most populous province. McGuinty, who held office for nine years, also “prorogued” parliament, sending all of the Ontario’s legislators packing until, he says, the Liberals elect a leader to replace him.

In proroguing the provincial legislature, McGuinty is taking a cue from Progressive Conservative (PC) Prime Minister Stephen Harper who sent Canadians running to their dictionaries in 2010, when he revivified the arcane procedure to avoid a vote of no confidence in the nation’s parliament.

Legislative lock-out

Ontario’s lame-duck Liberal leader contends he locked out the legislature in order to remove the rancor surrounding stalled negotiations with Conservatives and public sector unions over a zero-increase settlement with the province’s government workers.

The government insists it needs the wage freeze in order to trim a $14 billion deficit, and McGuinty says the legislative interruption will provide the province time to find out just what the Tories will require to get them to approve the plan.

Both parties are suspicious that, like Harper, the premier played the prorogue card in order to avoid political problems. McGuinty announced his resignation plans and subsequent parliamentary suspension the same day a second contempt motion was issued concerning the government’s cancellation of two gas plants costing taxpayers at least $230 million. The premier, however, denies there is any connection.

Could drag on for months

Neither the NDP nor the Conservatives are happy about sitting on their hands until the Liberals get around to electing a new leader. And PC Leader Tim Hudak has written to the premier urging him to allow the parliament do business in the interim.

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath accused the Liberals of imposing the legislative break, not to pick a new leader, but rather to avoid “facing the music” at public hearings into their decision to cancel the two power stations to save Liberal seats.

Horwath said she plans to introduce a motion when the Ontario legislature reopens in the spring, or after a provincial election, to require the government to receive permission from the legislature to prorogue parliament for more than seven days.

Has the campaign started?

PC Leader Hudak seemed to take advantage of the power vacuum the day after the premiere’s announcement to declare that he would direct as much of the money the province has reserved for Toronto transit as possible to subways rather than the already agreed-upon streetcars. In this he has aligned himself with fellow Conservative and recently removed Toronto Mayor Rob Ford who failed to stop the streetcar plan earlier this year.

Hudak who seems to be running for premier already, acknowledged that subway construction would have to wait until the province pays off its $14.4 million debt, and that could take a long time.
Greyhound threatens to discontinue BC service if it doesn’t get cuts

Here we go again. Greyhound is threatening to discontinue service in British Columbia (BC) if the province refuses to allow it to cut the frequency of service on 15 routes throughout the Okanagan Valley.

The demands mirror statements made by the company that led to the deregulation of over-the-road service in nearby Alberta; a process that has greatly compromised OTR service and safety in the United States.

“(We) are prepared to cease operating bus service in BC,” the company website warns, “unless the Passenger Transportation Board approves the reductions.”

Greyhound Local President Gary Galbreath, 1374-Calgary, AB, says that similar service cutbacks in the prairie provinces have had a devastating impact, particularly in rural areas. He’s urging BC citizens to oppose the proposal.

Lethbridge paratransit workers left behind at the dinner table

“Council gets parity, we get austerity,” says Local President Travis Oberg, 987-Lethbridge, AB.

Oberg represents Lethbridge paratransit workers, and he’s calling their city councillors out on their decision to award themselves a 21% “market adjustment” raise while limiting all other city employees to two percent.

Drivers deserve substantial increase

Oberg is demanding the city act on a January 2011 market review mandated by their union contract that found that Lethbridge Access-A-Ride employees deserve a substantial wage increase.

“Obviously,” Oberg says, “Council believes that they are the only ones worthy of market wages. They have had two reviews in three years and have implemented both. The 2011 report was the first market review of Access-A-Ride pay in five years and it has yet to be implemented.

“Our Access-A-Ride employees are responsible for transporting our city’s most vulnerable population – seniors, the medically dependent, and persons with physical and mental disabilities. They should at least be accorded the same respect and compensation given to workers doing similar jobs in the province.”
Canadian government urged to increase public transit funding

Society in Motion (STM), a Canadian transit advocacy organization, called on the federal House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance to increase public transit funding as part of the 2012 Pre-Budget Consultations. The STM stated:

While aiming to achieve a balanced budget, the government of Canada wants to support job creation, economic growth, and long-term prosperity. Against this background, government spending must generate positive economic results in the long term, create quality jobs, increase business productivity, and thus the competitiveness of the Canadian economy.

The government of Canada already spends about $1 billion annually to boost the investments in public transit infrastructure made by its municipal and provincial partners. However, those needs are massive and ever-increasing, while financial resources are inadequate.

By increasing available funds to finance public transit infrastructure, the federal government can:

• Support an industry that generates $11.5 billion annually in economic benefits.
• Make an investment, the economic benefits of which will be triple the value of the initial contribution.

The STM recommends that public transit be maintained as an eligible category in the general infrastructure program that will replace the Building Canada Fund, and that that funding be sufficient to meet the need. The STM also recommends that all federal excise taxes on gasoline (10¢/litre) be transferred to the gas tax fund, and that the next long-term infrastructure plan be initiated without delay.

Harper slashes transit funding

Olivia Chow, NDP critic for transport, infrastructure and communities, recently revealed that federal transit funding has plunged from an inadequate $1.1 billion in 2008, to a paltry $300 million in 2011. She worries that, if nothing is done, federal transit funding could eventually disappear altogether.

Federal support for road building, however, has increased, averaging over $1.5 billion per year over the same period. Chow charges that the figures demonstrate the government’s lack of commitment to reducing climate change.
Voir le Riche en colère

... Je crois que, tant qu’il y en a trop, la pauvreté est un mal. Le gouvernement doit être partout où le mal a besoin d’un adversaire et où des gens en détresse ne peuvent pas s’aider eux-mêmes. — Discours de Robert F. Kennedy, Athens, en Géorgie, le 6 mai 1961

2012 a été une grande année pour les membres de l’ATU. Les syndicats sont les outils de la puissance économique des travailleurs en difficulté. Nous ne sommes d’aucune utilité si nous ne luttons pas tous les jours pour améliorer la vie des pauvres et de la classe moyenne.

Notre travail consiste à organiser le pouvoir et cette année, plusieurs membres de l’ATU ont intensifié leurs efforts et ont rendu leur Syndicat plus puissant. Je vous tire mon chapeau à vous — le bénévole de l’ATU. Nos efforts cette année pour encourager nos passagers à voter ont été vraiment extraordinaires et marqueront le début de la transformation de notre Syndicat.

Le président Obama, réélu avec la sueur de sang et les espoirs de tant de travailleurs a déjà pris une solide position dans le Michigan pour les travailleurs et leurs organisations. Nous tenons à remercier le président Obama et nous espérons que n’ayant plus jamais à se présenter à des élections, il continuera à diriger les États-Unis avec force.

J’ai passé le jour des élections dans une fourgonnette à près d’un projet de logements sociaux à Cleveland, dans l’Ohio, à encourager les électeurs à se présenter aux urnes. Une femme est montée et nous a remerciés de l’emmener. Elle a dit : « J’ai une voiture, mais je n’ai pas les moyens de payer l’essence. » Le bureau de vote était à environ un mile et demi plus loin. Selon mon calcul rapide, cela signifiait qu’elle ne pouvait pas payer les quelques cinquante cents dont elle avait besoin pour aller voter. Cela m’a rappelé que l’Amérique a tourné le dos devant la croissance des foules de pauvres qui se trouvent parmi nous.

Pas de débat sur la pauvreté

Il n’y a pas de débat public sur la pauvreté en Amérique, sauf quand les riches qui détestent payer leur part juste d’impôts se plaignent de tous ceux qui utilisent des coupons alimentaires et autres formes d’aide publique.

Si vous regardez des réseaux comme CNBC ou FOX, vous verrez les milliardaires en colère qui attaquent les pauvres presque tous les jours. J’ai lu récemment un article dans Crains New York — un journal de la classe dirigeante s’il n’y en a jamais eu une — parlant de la concurrence (féroce) pour louer des appartements à Manhattan avec des taux de démarrage de 50 000 dollars américains par mois.

Les gens qui peuvent se permettre ces loyers devraient avoir honte du fait que plus d’enfants que jamais dans notre histoire se couchent en ayant faim, ils ne sont pas plus embarrassés que Marie-Antoinette qui a répondu, quand on lui a dit que le pauvre n’avait pas de pain, « ils n’ont qu’à manger de la brioche. »

C’est notre affaire — c’est pourquoi nous existons en tant que syndicats. Beaucoup de nos membres ont de la peine à donner à manger à leurs enfants tous les jours et dans les rangs plus largement démunis de notre société — là où les gens n’ont ni travail et ni syndicat — c’est pire.

Je promets à tous nos membres de renouveler la mission de ce Syndicat en 2013 pour travailler en votre nom. Mais je vous demande aussi d’être conscient que tout ce que nous avons — nos salaires, notre santé, la sécurité de notre retraite — vient de la société qui nous entoure, et des communautés que nous construisons. Nous ne pouvons pas nous enfourir dans la forteresse de l’ATU. Nous devons travailler pour un meilleur contrat social qui fortifie tous et chacun et qui exige de ceux qui bénéficient le plus de notre travail de partager la richesse.

Dr King a dit : « Nous ne pouvons pas marcher seuls. » Toutes nos vies sont tissées dans et à partir de la vie de ceux qui partagent notre temps sur la terre.
 Victoire

La victoire américaine est particulièrement douce, car elle a rassemblé la famille ATU depuis tous les coins de l'Amérique du Nord pour faire une campagne à un moment où le Syndicat était attaqué comme jamais auparavant. Mais malgré tout nous continuons à dire « Ensemble, nous pouvons gagner! » et « Ensemble, nous allons gagner! »

Nous avons eu des victoires sur les champs de bataille américain un état après l'autre — l'Ohio, la Floride, le Colorado, le Wisconsin, le Michigan, le Nevada et les autres — en dépit des perturbations causées par l'ouragan Sandy (nous allons aborder cela un peu plus tard).

Mitt Romney, Paul Ryan et les 2 % des plus riches de l'Amérique ne pouvaient pas croire ce que nous avons accompli ensemble. Ils ne comprendront jamais que vous êtes la raison pour laquelle nous avons si bien réussi. Et que vous êtes la raison pour laquelle nous allons continuer à faire avancer les choses!

HÉ, ENSEMBLE, NOUS AVONS GAGNÉ!

Vous pouvez prendre une petite pause, maintenant – mais pas pour longtemps. Les 2 % ne s'arrêteront jamais, alors restez à l'écoute, et soyez prêt. Avec votre aide, l'année prochaine et chaque année par la suite, ce programme fonctionnera.

Nos membres dans le besoin

Maintenant, nous pouvons nous concentrer beaucoup plus pour aider nos frères et sœurs dévastés par l'ouragan Sandy. Cette tempête a détruit beaucoup des biens de nos membres, il a démoli des maisons et a même provoqué des décès. Ils ont besoin de votre amour, de votre soutien et de vos prières, maintenant plus que jamais.

J'ai reçu de nombreux appels au cours de la dernière semaine de la campagne, surtout de nos frères et sœurs au Canada et dans l'Ouest, demandant ce qu'ils pouvaient faire pour aider les victimes de l'ouragan. Nous leur avons demandé d'envoyer leur amour, leur soutien financier, et leurs prières à ceux qui en ont besoin.

Il ne peuvent jamais savoir ce que leurs dons en temps opportun ont pu signifier pour certains de nos membres qui étaient à bout de souffle.

Alors, je vous demande à vous et à chacun des membres qui ne l'ont pas déjà fait, maintenant, de donner quoi qu'il soit en votre pouvoir pour nos membres qui ont perdu presque tout à cause de l'ouragan Sandy. Et, au nom de chacun d’eux, « Merci! »

En conclusion, nous souhaitons que tout le monde ait une saison des fêtes bénie et heureuse, et veuillez prendre quelques instants pour dire une prière pour tous les membres de notre famille ATU touchés par cette terrible tragédie.

En toute solidarité,
Bob et Teresa Baker et famille

Merci — maintenant, nous allons reprendre le travail!

La première chose que j’aimerais dire est « Merci! »

Merci à tous ceux qui ont participé dans notre effort américain pour faire valoriser son droit de voter Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV). Nous vous remercions de nous avoir aidés à élire plus de candidats qui favorisent le transport en commun et le syndicat au bureau – y compris le président Obama et le vice-président Joe Biden. Et merci de nous avoir aidés à faire passer par le vote autant de mesures de transport en commun à travers les États-Unis.

Vous nous avez aidés à entreprendre la campagne GOTV la plus importante et efficace de notre histoire, il n’est donc pas surprenant que les experts dans tout le spectre politique donnent crédit à l’ATU et le « jeu de base » du parti travailleur comme une raison majeure, si ce n’est la raison pour laquelle de nombreux candidats ont été élus, et des mesures de transport en commun ont été passées.

Le travail que vous avez fait pendant cette campagne électorale servira de modèle pour nos futures campagnes non seulement aux États-Unis, mais aussi au Canada.

Comment est-ce arrivé?

Vous vous êtes levés tôt pendant vos jours de congé pour distribuer de la documentation aux arrêts de bus et aux gares, et vous avez convaincu les passagers et les groupes sympathisants à se joindre à la lutte.

Vous avez fait des appels en nombre et frappé aux portes. Vous avez enregistré les gens, et vous les avez emmenés aux urnes. Et vous avez enduré les insultes et les commentaires grossiers de certains qui semblaient n’avoir que de la haine dans leurs cœurs pour le président et les progressistes en général.

Malgré cela, vous avez persisté, vous avez voté, et vous
avez choqué l'Amérique avec les résultats des élections qui étaient tout sauf prévisibles.

Correction d'une grosse erreur

La deuxième chose que j’aimerais dire est : « Il est temps de retourner au travail. »

Permettez-moi de m’expliquer :

Après l’élection historique américaine de 2008, le parti du Travail avait pensé qu’il pouvait tout simplement s’asseoir et regarder le Congrès passer la législation qui allait défendre et étendre les droits des travailleurs.

Ce fut une grosse erreur.

Cette année, nous n’osons pas permettre que le fonctionnement politique le plus efficace que nous avons tous construit s’atrophie par désuétude. Nous devons retourner au travail.

Membres activistes « redéployés »

Ainsi, le président international Hanley a redéployé nos membres activistes des États-Unis afin de faire pression sur le Congrès et qu’il n’agisse pas comme un canard boiteux en coupant l’Assurance sociale, le Régime d’assurance-maladie, ou le transport en commun dans le cadre d’un « grand marchandage » pour équilibrer le budget.

Ce réseau grandira et continuera à travailler en 2013, lorsque le Congrès prendra des décisions non moins cruciales pour l’avenir de notre Syndicat et de notre pays. Donc vous pouvez constater que cette coalition et ce réseau politique sont déjà devenus une partie essentielle et permanente de notre opération américaine, et serviront de base à notre planification au Canada.

Si vous ne l’avez pas déjà fait, j’encourage les membres américains à faire, des cotisations mensuelles continues au fonds ATU-COPE qui soutient nos activités politiques. Et veuillez envisager à convaincre vos collègues de rejoindre ce nouvel et passionnant effort bénévole. C’est une expérience formidable. Vous pouvez trouver davantage d’informations à : ww.atu.org

Bonne année

J’espère que vous avez passé de très bonnes fêtes et j’aimerais vous offrir à vous et à votre famille de la part de la mienne et de moi-même nos meilleurs vœux de bonheur et de santé pour cette nouvelle année.

Transitweb

Helping ATU Locals Harness the Power of the Internet for FREE

ATU is launching a new service, TransitWeb, to set up a free state-of-the-art website for local unions. This new innovative program includes:

EASE OF USE User-friendly rich features, varied design template options, and ease of use for updates and changes.

FRESH CONTENT Easily update your website with fresh content, photos and even videos.

SUPPORT Free training to learn how to easily update and maintain your website.

NO COST TransitWeb is a FREE program for all local unions, the full cost is covered by ATU International.

FLEXIBILITY TransitWeb has been developed for ATU local unions. We’ll help you make your website fit your needs.

To get your website up and running today contact: communications@atu.org.
IN MEMORIAM

Death Benefits Awarded September 1, 2012 - October 31, 2012

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1- MEMBERS AT LARGE
ROBERT HOFFRAN
LLOYD H JAMES
GEORGE H LAY
MICHAEL LOMBARDI
MICHAEL O'NEILL
HOWARD W SUTTLE
DAN S VIGIL

26- DETROIT, MI
FELIX DRAKE
LAWRENCE W GIROUX
DENK T JONES

26- PITTSBURGH, PA
ANDREW GREGO JR
PETER J JANES
WILLIAM KELLER
ALBERT P LAFOCE
TOMMY H LENNOX
DAVID A MC CALL
JACQUELINE D PENNIX
ALFRED W YATES
LAWYER S THOMPSON

26- CHICAGO, IL
JESUS M AGUAYO
JOHN STROUD
THEODORE D PARKER
CHARLES T MOHR
JOHN HAYNES JR
MILLS C HATFIELD

26- NEW HAVEN, CT
ANNIE LEWIS
PETER WILLIAMS

26- DETROIT, MI
STEPHEN W BEARD
SHERRY L BARRON
30- CHICAGO, IL
ANNIE LEWIS
PETER WILLIAMS
GARRY J VESTERVELT
JAMES H MOLOUGHNEY
MICHEL E LAPENSEE
JOHANN DWORSCHAK
279- OTTAWA, ON
NOLAND P PATTERSON
268- CLEVELAND, OH
EARL B TANNER
DONALD HODSON
JERRY A AUSANO
279- OTTAWA, ON
PHILLIP I WOOD
ANTHONY S UKOCKIS
VIRGIL L TYLER
CHARLES A SMITH
DARNELL SMITH JR
PABLO S SILVA
MICHAEL SCHLEYER
CHARLES J SAUER
MILAN I PLACKO
STEVE W MASON
NELSON E MACHADO
THEODORE KAZANIS
HAROLD JOHNSON
ERNEST HUNTER
JOE D HUDGINS
RAYMOND R GONZALEZ
DARREN R FOSTER
JAMES J EDIGER
REGINA H DAREN
EVELYN CAROLAN
CLIFFORD C AYERS
JESUS M AGUAYO
241- CHICAGO, IL
ROBERT D MARKERT
192- OAKLAND, CA
JOHN E ZELENA
DUANE REED WATKINS
JACQUELINE D PENNIX
DAVID A MC CALL
TOMMY H LENTZ
ALBERT P LAFACE
WILLIAM KELLER
PETER P JANECKO
ANDREW GREGO JR
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LLOYD H JAMES
GEORGE H LAY
MICHAEL LOMBARDI
MICHAEL O'NEILL
HOWARD W SUTTLE
DAN S VIGIL

November/December 2012 | IN TRANSIT
Amalgamated Transit Union
Convention Delegates & Guests:

THE 57TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

will be held at

Hilton San Diego Bayfront
San Diego, CA
August 25-30, 2013

Please be patient.
No reservations available until the Convention Call is published in 2013
OUR FIGHT CONTINUES.

ATU to build on GOTV success in US November 6 elections

ATU members (above) were at the forefront of demonstrations against the midnight passage of right-to-work legislation in Michigan in early December. Encouraged by their stealth victory, right-to-work proponents plan to bring their anti-union crusade to more states.

“If anyone needed further evidence that ATU and Labor needs to continue to be politically active beyond the election, this is it,” says International President Larry Hanley. “Political activism simply must become an integral part of the work of every local.”

The Union will continue to build on the success of its Get-Out-The-Vote campaign in the last election to promote pro-transit and pro-working family legislation on both the state and federal levels (read more inside).