

# The 998 EXPRESS



June 2011

ATU Local 998

Issue No. 6



*Remember  
Those Who  
Paid For Our  
Freedom.*

**Happy  
Memorial  
Day!**

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The 998 Express  
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 998

734 N. 26th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233  
Phone: 414-342-4300 Fax: 414-342-1998

**Representing Transit Workers  
in Southeastern Wisconsin**

Officers:

Alan Simonis - President  
Rick Bassler - Vice President  
Pat Clemens Financial Secretary-Treasurer  
Cassandra Cobb - Recording Secretary

Chief Steward/Executive Board:

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Alfonso Anderson — FDL Station  
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Michael Marhal — Garages  
Andrew Schmeling — Hillside  
Cassandra Cobb (Appointed) — First Transit  
William Jordan — Kenosha Transit  
Scott Navis — Sheboygan Transit  
Paul Alonso — Waukesha Metro

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Lamar (Penny) Amos-Sikora- Legislative Director  
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Alan Simonis & Tom Tarnowski

**Layout and design:** Valencia Cheese  
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The 998 Express is the official publication of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 998. Its purpose is to be informative, promote the cause of unionism, and provide a voice and a communication tool for the members of the organization and other interested parties. The editor and/or staff will review all submissions for publication. See deadline information on this page. Articles submitted for publication do not necessarily reflect opinions of the Executive Board or 998 members. However, all articles will be scrutinized for ethical and moral standards.

ATU Local 998 Retirees' Chapter Executive Board Committee

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Bill Becker—2nd Vice Chair	Bob Eckert
Carl Nelson—Executive FST	Bob Wolter
Peter Frorath — Rec. Secy.	Barbara Spielvogel
Marty Zemen — Sentinel	Thomas (Big Smitty) Smith

**ATU LOCAL 998 Pensioners' Social Meeting**

**Wednesday, June 8, 2011**  
**11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**2011 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ATU LOCAL 998  
**Milwaukee Union Meetings  
Including: First Transit**

Morning Meeting – 10:00 a.m. &  
Evening Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, June 2, 2011**

ATU Local 998  
734 North 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Milw., WI  
**The current officers encourage all  
members to attend the union meeting.**

ATU Local 998  
**Women's Caucus**

Thursday, June 2, 2011, @ 5:00 P.M.

@ ATU Local 998 Union Hall  
734 N. 26th St., Milwaukee, WI

\*(Dates and times are subject to change)

**All members are welcome.**

**Marilyn Paty – Chairperson**  
**Cassandra Cobb – Recording Secretary**  
**Sharlene Olson Financial Secretary-Treasurer**  
**Rosie Ferguson – Appointed Women's  
Caucus Advisor**

*We welcome submissions to this newsletter.  
The next Newsletter will be the  
**July 2011 Issue.***

*Please submit your articles before or by  
**Monday, June 17, 2011.***

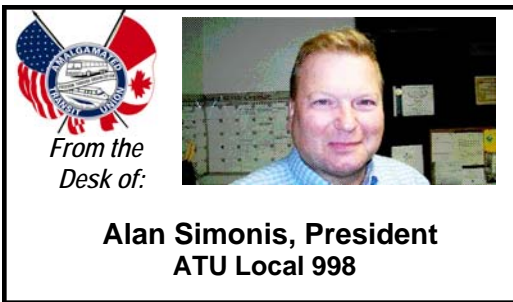
*If you have any questions regarding the above,  
please contact Val @ (414) 342-4300.*

**IN MEMORIAM 2011**

**Kenneth Klemstein (82) 4-11-11**

**Condolences from  
ATU Local 998**

Please take a moment of silence  
in memory of the departed  
members of ATU Local 998.  
Thank you.



We have time and time again asked the members of ATU Local 998 and their families to call, write, and email legislators and ask them to support public transportation and bargaining rights. We ask them to stand up against budget cuts and the threats of route cuts and fare increases, this we must continue to do.

Another thing that all of must do and if you haven't been now is a good time to start. It is telling the legislators that fight for and with us 'Thank you' for the work that they do. There are many elected officials that stand up for working men and women of our state and country. They are continually on the front lines under vicious attacks from those who want to take away a way of life that has been fought and bargained for. Without our champions, we would be in this fight alone, and would have no chance of winning. So take some time and let your elected officials know that their work is appreciated.

### Time to Say Thank You

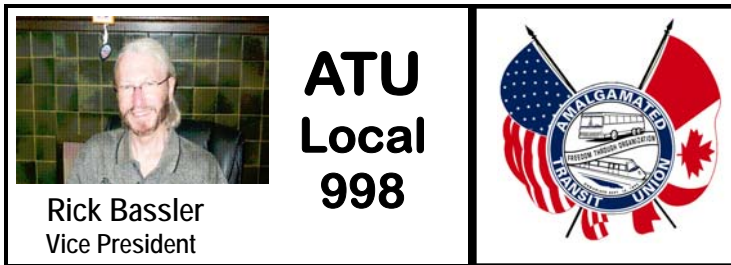
**T**he Milwaukee contract has been extended to June 24<sup>th</sup> 2011. This was done by mutual agreement between MCTS and the Union. ATU Local 998s bargaining committee is committed to bringing a fair contract to our members for ratification. With all of the attacks and budget cuts on transit, this is not an easy task. Both sides know that we must work together and bargain fairly to ensure that an agreement can be reached. With the continued support of the members of ATU Local 998 as shown with the results of the solidarity vote for which we are thankful I am confident that a fair agreement will be reached.

In Kenosha and Sheboygan we are still hopeful that the contracts will be extended. The loss of millions in Federal transit dollars for these communities are at stake. With the loss of collective bargaining rights that the budget bill includes, we have been assured that the federal monies will also be lost. Why the leaders of these two communities wish to gamble on the loss of Federal transit money is unbelievable. Let's hope that fair agreements can be reached to keep quality public transportation which is needed in place. In both of these two locations the members of ATU Local 998 have made legitimate offers that include fair concessions in order to make this happen.

**Stay involved find out the facts; don't listen to the rumors that go around. Talk to your steward and call the Union office if you have questions, and above all, attend the monthly Union meetings.**

*Have a Safe and Happy Father's day.*





## What You Should Know About F.M.L.A. (Family Medical Leave Act)

If you receive paperwork from a Doctor for FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act) or Worker's Compensation, contact the Union office to review the document. There have been a number of problems lately with paperwork turned into the Company that's incomplete.

When you incur a work-related injury, make sure your doctor states this on his or her reports to the Company. If the Company sends you to an IME (Independent Medical Examiner), the report sent back to the claims Department will most likely state that it's a prior existing injury and not work-related. At that point, you have the right to appeal the ruling. You can find your own attorney or use our union's attorneys, Israel Ramon or Dan Schosinski. They can be reached at (414) 271-8650. Attorneys charge a percentage only if you win the case. Our attorneys charge you a lesser percentage than other law firms do. If you call our attorneys, tell them that you are from Local 998, and we referred you to call.

### Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

*Anyone applying for FMLA must call the designated number for FMLA (414-937-3232), the day you go sick. This is in compliance with Statute 825:303(c) "Complying with employer policy" which states: "When the need for leave is not foreseeable, an employee must comply with the employer's usual and customary notice and procedural requirements for requesting leave, absent usual circumstances."*

**Complete and sufficient certification:** The employee must provide a complete and sufficient certification to the employer, if required by the employer in accordance and SS825.305c. The employer shall advise an employee whenever the employer finds a certification incomplete or insufficient, and shall state in writing what additional information is necessary to make the certification complete and sufficient. A certification is considered incomplete if the employer receives a certification, but one or more of the applicable entries have not be completed. A certification is considered insufficient if the employer receives a complete certification, but the information provided is vague, ambiguous, or non-responsive. The employer must provide the employee with seven calendar days (unless not practicable under the particular circumstances despite the employee's diligent good faith efforts) to cure any such deficiency. If the deficiencies

specified by the employer are not cured in the resubmitted certification, the employer may deny the taking of FMLA leave, in accordance with S825.313. A certification that is not returned to the employer is not considered incomplete or sufficient, but constitutes a failure to provide certification.

The authorization to waive your rights under the law is on the back of the application form, checking "yes" means you are waiving your rights.

We have been receiving numerous calls concerning whether operators can eat or drink while operating a bus. Operators have a right to replenish themselves, sip on a drink while taking medications, and/or food for medical reasons etc. If any of the above occurs, pull your bus to the curb, stop and address your needs, then continue driving. The Managing Director of M.T.S. understands the above-mentioned necessities. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the union office.

## Grievance Settlements

**G**rievance settlements for last month include 3 first steps, 5 second steps and 4 third steps. There was one grievance scheduled for arbitration which was resolved. The member was discharged for improper conduct and was satisfied with the settlement. He is currently working at another union job.

## Happy Father's Day





**Patrick Clemens**  
Financial Secretary-Treasurer



**ATU 998**

To All Medicare Pensioners

**W**e have been working on contract issues dealing with insurance and pension and we try to make sure that those who have gone before us into retirement remain covered and care for because we hope to all be in that position one day ourselves. We also feel those benefits were definitely earned over a lot of hard years of sacrifice, so we don't want those benefits to disappear. With a new insurance carrier in house there come changes that should be minor, but with UHC, they seem to push and punch at the heart of the people who can least afford increases. Co-pays to visit your doctor or specialist if you're part of Medicare should not be paid up front at your doctor's office. Tell the receptionist to run the charges through Medicare and UHC and if there's a balance you will take care of it when you get billed for it.

I had a conversation with Medicare and I was told that everyone has a deductible of \$125.00 a year, but that is paid for services, not co-pays! Co-pays are part of your bill for services

from your doctor. If you pay a co-pay to your doctor, you are essentially giving him or her a bonus. Medicare will let you know. If you still owe your \$125.00 **DEDUCTABLE!** We have enough problems with overcharges and Prescriptions for drugs not in the formulary. We need to work on those problems because the new bid for next year is about to go out and we want to make sure that we can avoid future problems before they happen. UHC came in and told us about how they were the greatest thing since sliced bread, and we have had nothing but problems. When we had a labor liaison in the past, we were able to get things changed and taken care of. Now we have very few options because of HIPPA rules. Continue to let us know when you have problems, but we must work together to solve these problems.

**Remember your  
veterans on  
Memorial Day  
and have a great  
Father's Day.**





**Cassandra Cobb**



**ATU Local 998 Recording Secretary  
and First Transit  
Appointed Chief Steward**



### **Bring It to the Union Hall First**

**H**ello Sisters and Brothers of ATU Local 998. Happy Father's Day 2011. It has come to my attention that members are getting paperwork such as, Family Medical Leave Act forms (FMLA) and Letter's of Partial, or Permanent Disabilities filled out, or written by their medical provider and taking them straight to the company instead of taking them to the union first and letting the union look over them and communicate with you before handing the forms/letters over to the company personnel. Make sure you get the first and right information. Please call your union officers at (414)342-4300; speak to Vice President Rick Bassler. If he is not in office ask for his cell number and leave him a voicemail message. You can also speak to another officer. While every member's situation is different, make sure you get the end results that will work best for you and that it is what you want. In most cases afterwards is too late.

You have an obligation to Yourself/Grievance/FMLA to stay in touch with the representative/chief steward that is handling your case(s). Don't wait until your time line has run out before you make that call (414) 342-4300 or cell number of your representative and make sure your current address, home and cell phone number and e-mail address are on file with the union. The union can't help you if we can't locate you by U.S. Mail, or by phone.

Don't forget to fill out your application for Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and have your doctor fill out the FMLA forms in a timely manner. Once you have the FMLA forms, see Vice President Rick Bassler, or fax {(414) 342-1998} him your FMLA forms so he or another officer can review them for corrections before turning them into the company. Make sure you designate what type of days you want to use first on your "Application for Family Medical Leave Act form", Sick Days, Vacation Days, or Personal Days, starting on day one (1) of being off, or after the first ten (10) days of being off. If you have additional questions, please call and ask as soon as possible.

Let's remember to respect each other's personal space. Drivers, we're the first person the riding public sees. Keep the drivers area clean for yourself and for the driver that will be relieving you on the road. Your co-worker should not have to spend their layover cleaning up and throwing out trash the driver before them left on the bus and between the wall of the bus and the

driver's seat like chewed gum. If you have any complaints about your union sister or brother; call your union representative first to resolve the situation/problem before going to the company, because any complaint to the company will remain in both members' records. So, watch who you complain to first.

**It is always a pleasure to say, "Hello",** to all the Milwaukee Transport Service (MCTS) Retirees. It is always wonderful to see you at the union hall, on the bus, out and about in the stores, or just pulling up next to the bus I'm driving.

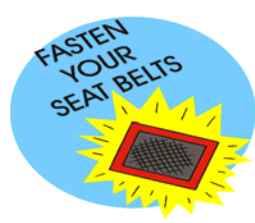
**First Transit,** remember to Strap In, Strap Down, Lock In, Lock Down your wheelchairs and turn off and stow away your cell phones. Remember to give your Ten (10) codes. Take the extra minute to make sure your passengers in wheelchairs are strapped in securely with no possible wheelchair tips and the tracks are secured properly. It is always important to attend your Monthly Membership Meetings, every first Thursday of the month at 10:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M. unless otherwise specified. Come out and support your union.

**ROCK AND ROLL** before each turn and before proceeding after any intersection stops (any stop), because that rock before you roll will stop an accident.

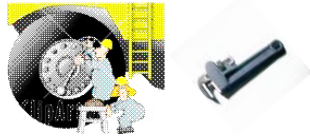
The ATU Local 998 Women's Caucus is always looking for other members to join. Meetings are every first Thursday of each month (otherwise specified) at 5:00 P.M. at the union hall. For more information call Marilyn Paty (414) 840-8269, or myself at (414) 233-0229.

From June 2 through June 5, 2011, the Amalgamated Transit Union International Women's Caucus 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion (Conference) will be co-hosted by ATU Local 689 (Washington D.C. Women's Caucus) and ATU Local 1560 (New Orleans, LA Women's Caucus) held in New Orleans, Louisiana. As always, a report in the next ATU Local 998 Express will follow. This is also the year for elections for Officers of the ATU International Women's Caucus. The "Theme" for this year's conference is, "Rebuilding The Dream" One Transit Property At A Time!"

Also, remember to keep a cool head out there. Passengers can be very rude and then report you to the Company as if you were the offender. The Camera tells a better story in your defense. Wear your seatbelts; stay off the cell phones (with the exception of your layovers') and if you have a bus with the new shields on them, use it. Have a great summer.



**Shops**  
**Andy Schmeling**  
**Chief Steward**



Contract negotiations for me being a first time steward, and the first time on a bargaining committee, reminds me of a Dr. Seuss tale On negotiations eve, I am excited, anxious, and hopeful of what Santa Grant will bring us in the morning. Well it doesn't take long to see the Grinch posting as Santa Grant came to the bargaining table, wanting to take all our collective bargaining presents back to his workshop

For the next three months, we had met several times with very little progress. We have even gotten a Federal Mediator involved to try to bring the two sides together on the issues at hand. The Grinch still wanted all our toys! I don't know who or if there is a Cindy Lou, but I would like to thank her because she must have shown the Grinch how to be happy, because that's the day his heart grew three times its size! Then, on the most unlikely days of all Friday the 13th, the Grinch was to propose his final offer, but instead, Santa Grant entered the room with out a proposal and actually wanted to listen to our concerns and issues to see if we can get a good deal for the company and all the Who's in Who's-Ville. With that said the contract has been extended to June 24, with us meeting again during the week of June 13-17, hopefully with a vote on the contract the following week.

I would like to thank all our members who came out to vote on the solidarity vote and show the Executive Board that they do back us and support our efforts. For those of you who don't support us, well, next year is an election year. If you think this job is easy or we are not doing enough, maybe you should run for a position. Put up or shut up! Until next month, work safe.



**News From Out West**  
**by Paul Alonso**  
**Chief Steward**  
Waukesha Metro



On April 22, Waukesha Metro had a pull pork barbeque throw down to see who made the best tasting recipe. There were four contestants. I sampled each entrée several times. It was tough to pick one. Kudos to our own Roberto G. who got the most votes.

On May 12th, we had a brownie throw down. We had seven entries. Unfortunately, I did not get to sample any of the goodies. Kudos to our new facilitator. He got the most votes. Who let the rookie in anyway....? LOL

Brothers and Sisters, be informed on the doings of our workplace, especially if there is an arbitration vote. They cost money. Remember, the Officers are not the Union, YOU ARE.



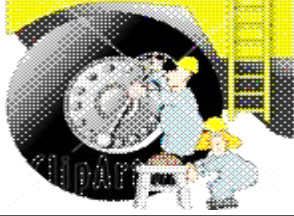
People, in the next couple of weeks, we are getting ride checks, so look sharp; call your stops mandated by ADA. Hard drives are being pulled and you are going to be on "Candid" Camera. You will be called to the Principal's office if you don't.

School is almost over. Kids will be out in full force. Be Alert. Enjoy your summer!



## Garage Report

By Mike Marhal  
Chief Steward



As I write this article, I am sitting at the Hall collecting our solidarity votes. Unfortunately, these are uncertain times for all of us. After my first go round with these contract negotiations, I can't help but wonder if every company treats the bargaining table the same. It seems that the company wants us to accept all their proposals, and if we don't, they come back with a worse one, almost out of spite. Not much negotiating has gone on, just union concessions, and we can't concede enough to meet the company's "demands." These are scary times for us at 998, and for the company as well. It seems understood all around that this company isn't getting the funding it needs for everything to run smoothly, and concessions are inevitable, but there is a difference between concessions and getting screwed.

I'm sure by now you have heard of the new meal allowance policy. I would love to explain it to you, but no one has explained it to me. I guess it's my fault that we have this new policy. I brought up a proposal for the contract that would automatically add five dollars to your check, or have the garage foreman give you five dollars petty cash if you worked over ten hours. I thought that this proposal would shore up the contract language, and make it quicker and easier on all accounts for us to receive the meal allowances we earned. The company apparently doesn't want to save time and money during our budget crunch. It isn't hard to see how this would help. As it stands, if you work over ten hours, you have to fill out a meal allowance form, give it to your shift supervisor; he gives it to the garage manager, who sends it down town; it goes to the director of maintenance, who then sends it to the company executives. When these executives ultimately turn it down, it comes back to you through all those same hands. This process only takes two or three months. This meal reimbursement form has almost as many miles as the four thousands we're scrapping. Now remember, this is all over five dollars! The amount of money spent on this process has to be closer to hundreds of dollars, but I guess it makes sense downtown to spend a few hundred if it saves them five. And this money and time is spent *before* the grievance process starts. I know it doesn't seem worth it to even try and get your reimbursement sometimes, and this is exactly what the company is going for. But it's worth it, it's your right to get that five dollars, as stated in the contract. Keep putting them in, and I'll keep fighting for them.

I apologize for not getting an article in the last few months. I have no good reason for not getting them in, I

just didn't. It's important that we do the best we can to get along with our co-workers. You don't have to have a beer with them after work, but you can at least give them the respect they deserve while on the job. Also, try and clean up your work area a little before the next guy has to work there. It's the little things like that that make it easier for us all. As always, work smart, safe and have a good time while you do it. If you need me, call me. I'm on third shift again, so if I don't answer, I'll call you back at some point.

Jon

Keckeisen

Chief Steward  
(KK Station)

**KK Corner**



To all our drivers who voted, "Thank You." We had a great turnout of drivers from the KK station. I know it was a pain to drive over to the Union Hall, but it was well worth the drive. The rumor has it that there were more drivers from Kinnickinnic Station that voted, than any other station. The whole contract experience to be blunt, is an eye-opener to say the least. The stewards and I have seen the contract go from good to worse. Therefore, we will do the best we can and not just accept it. We don't have to like it, but we will get this done.

This has been hard on everyone, but I hope that when you read this, we have a new three-year contract. The insurance issue we will have to face in January, because we may have a new insurance carrier. This is up to the company, but we will be better informed on who and any changes that will affect us. This is your Union. We are just trying to get the best for you.

# Support Your UNION.

## Come to the Monthly Union Meetings.

Look for Postings in Your Work Area.



Alfonso Anderson  
Chief Steward  
Fond du Lac  
Station



I want everyone who came out for our Solidarity Vote to note that we will meet with the Company the week of June 13, 2011, concerning the contract. We hope to have a fair contract by then.

As we are all aware, misses have become a problem. We, as bus operators must be mindful to be prompt to service the bus riders in a timely manner. They depend on us to be on schedule to get them to their destination on time. **DON'T TAKE THE CHANCE ON LOSING YOUR JOB DUE TO A MISS.**

Operators, as we work together, learn how to respect one another. Remember the "Golden Rule" *"Do unto others as you would have others do unto you."*



## WANT A BUS SIGN ROLL? (Peter Frorath, Retiree)

The East Troy Electric Railway Museum, ETERM, has a limited number of cloth destination sign rolls from diesel buses from the late 1970's and early 1980's.

The route numbers were white (not black like the 1950's-early 1970's). The route numbers are on the same 53" wide sign cloth as the destination street. Most of these sign rolls are from KK, with a few from Fiebrantz and Fond du lac stations. Some of the sign rolls are still on the original metal rollers.



If you are interested in one of these sign rolls for your collection, contact ETERM member Pete Frorath at 414 643-1661.

## In Observance of Memorial Day...

***Keep silence for a  
minute at 3 p.m.,  
"National Moment of  
Remembrance, and  
listen to Taps being  
played."***



## A Bus Operator's Opinion By Steve Walker, Kinnickinnic Station

**H**i Everyone. Well here we go again. The twisted thinking of our crack management team. — Write up a driver for not turning in \$2.00 worth of schedules, but not one person got in trouble for the thousands of dollars lost with the major screw up from last summer's Route 15's mess.

What a twisted way to run a company. What's next? Get suspended for not turning in the .10 rubber bands? Give me a break. Let's see now, no eating or drinking on the bus until your 4-min. layover. Drive with a painted smile on your face and pretend to be happy, even though our working conditions are the worst in years. Don't talk back to the passenger even when they smart-off to you. If they don't have the fare, let them ride, but don't leave a schedule in the bus at pull-in.

So it's penny-wise but lots of dollars foolish in the hands of the nit-picking; do anything to harass the union by twisting the rules to their liking type of thinking by the so-called caring; let's work together management. BULL!

It used to be a joy to work here, but now your only friend is your fellow operators, because they are the only ones who really know what it's like on the streets. Example: One morning as I was TRYING to step off the bus, a passenger pushed his way passed me wanting a transfer even though I had them in my pocket preparing to RUN to the bathroom. I stated to him, "I would be right back" and his response was "I don't care what you have to do, I want my transfer." At this time, very calmly, I replaced the transfers, tore one off for him and continued a WALK to the restroom. When I returned and left the layover I was 7 minutes late. And he missed his route 55 which left him a 30- min. wait for the next bus. It's hard to care if they don't care.

Attitude is everything on this job, and when someone treats me like a piece of dirt, I will do the same. A simple thought for the leaders of this company. It's hard to be fair when treated unfairly by people. It's expected by the riding public, but not by our own fellow workers.

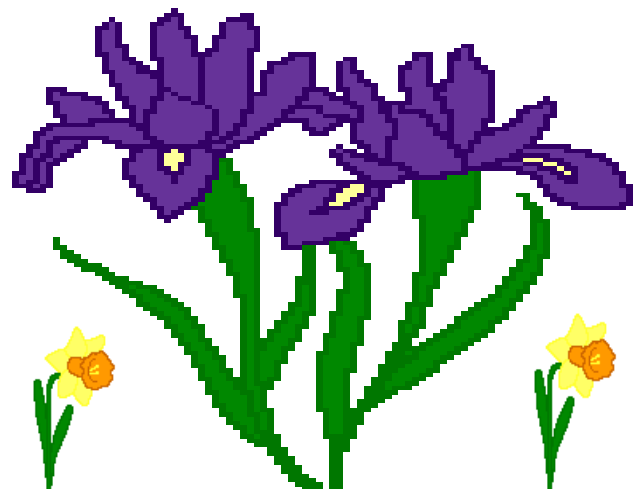
When I come to work now, I prepare for a bad day because that is what happens out here. I will continue to do my job to the best of my ability. I show up everyday and try to maintain a schedule without being negative, but that is continuing to be harder and harder as each day passes. The company harasses the members daily with such nit-picking crap, while the reputation of this company continues to fizzle with nothing truly being done to improve the service that we need to survive.

Who cares about the lost revenue of hundreds of dollars a day? Just nail the driver for leaving the \$2.00 worth of schedules on the buses at pull in. Like I said, twisted, nit-picking, non- professional tactics of the management team.

So until next time folks, show those schedules to the camera and let them know you have them and count your blessings you don't have to see one our many bosses at the station for something stupid.

Be safe and try not to let the nuts get to you, public and or company.

*Have a Great  
Summer!*





**Lamar (Penny)  
Amos Sikora**



**Legislative Director**

**A**s I write this, I sit and wonder about some things....Why is it that few accept that as a labor union, we have never faced the circumstances that we currently face, never in our history. We have an anti-transit and anti-union governor who will stop at nothing until public sector employees are making as little as possible. Many believe that as a transit system, we are too necessary to be allowed to fold, but I look at the dramatic cuts to education and wonder why would conservatives or republicans spare transit? Yes, common sense and numerous studies have screamed how important transit is, yet, we have found our system in a death spiral. How has our union responded? Well, our leadership has launched a full court press on lobbying, rallies, and meetings attempting to press against this seemingly un-avoidable situation. How has the membership responded? While some of you remain union active, far too many of you have chosen an apathetic role. Some have the mentality that since they're on their way out the door, it's not their problem. Others continue to work and are in denial about our impending doom. Then we have those that choose not to help their brothers and sisters, instead incite conflict by playing company and scrutinizing their own union brother or sister.

In a time of literal war on transit, why is it member against member, driver against driver, clerk against driver, and AA against driver?! Where's the unity? There is a popular saying that says, "United we stand, divided we fall." There is truth to this saying. While our ship is under attack, we can choose to continue our foolishness or we can get behind our leadership and stand together. I initially was going to make this letter personal, but I'm not because I'm not in this alone; we are ALL in this together, so as you each read this, ask yourself....am I in this union for me or am I in this for us? There is nothing wrong with wanting to move up in the company, I applaud perseverance and success; however, don't move up on the backs of your brothers and sisters. It is not your place to expose your union brother's shortcomings to make yourself look good.

Are you talking about a member calling in sick because you're concerned or because you want to gossip. So what if that person has a public complaint; he or she has to face the music his or herself. Encourage him or her, help them with their mistakes; don't criticize them and snitch so they can get fired and you can get a tripper. This mentality is what frustrates me, as I believe truly that "right is right and wrong is wrong".

Macon has been saying since I've been on the property that " It's time for the members to put up or shut up." Many of you don't like his radical mentality, but he is right about this one. The current challenges against us will test the resolve of this union's very existence. As the company gets more disciplinary and the budgets squeezed tighter, do we come together and fight for our survival or perish as bickering fools?!

A few members told me that after all we did, we were unable to get an "RTA" and I shook my head because while I did think that we would have success by now, but I understand that battles are long. Another member said that what's the point since we now have Walker as our governor, and I said "So, that doesn't mean we quit." — And I meant that. Dr. King began the battle for Civil Rights in 1955. The Civil Rights Act wasn't signed by President Johnson until 1964, nearly a decade later. He endured prison, death threats; many around him getting hurt or killed. He was nearly killed, and countless amounts of stress; King never gave up. Will we?

I close by asking our membership to do an inventory for courage, do an inventory for unity, now is not the time for division. We have a great board that's giving all it's got to lead our union, but they feel alone at times, let's give them a powerful union membership and get the rights and funding our community deserves!

**I am and will always be ATU proud. Will you join me?**



**A.T.U. Local 998 Will Continue to Speak Out for the Rights of Union. Workers.**

ATU Local 998  
734 North 26th Street  
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and First Transit (Formerly known as Laidlaw)*

	<p>ATU Local 998 <b>Retirees' Chapter Meeting</b> <b>Wednesday, June 8, 2011</b> Retirees' Executive Board Meeting: 9:30 A.M.—10:00 A.M. Retirees' Membership Meeting: 10:00 A.M.—11:00 A.M. Retirees' Social Gathering: 11:00 A.M.— 4:00 P.M.</p>
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



*Sunday, June 19th*

**ATU Local 998**