



# Railroad Workers United

***Unity—Solidarity—Democracy: The Rank and File in Action!***

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## Labor Day Greetings from Railroad Workers United

Dear RWU Members and Supporters:

Happy Labor Day! Whether you are working or happen to have the day off, take a few moments to remember the struggles of our forefathers, the working people that built this country and the world, those who fought against great odds to build unions in order to defend their rights and the rights of their fellow workers. In our industry great sacrifice, including loss of life, was a part of our great heritage.

The 1877 Great Railroad Strike was the first major conflict with the carriers, followed soon after by the Pullman Strike in 1894. The National Shopmen's Strike in 1922 witnessed a half million railway shop workers go on strike in terminals across the nation. Similar strikes in both Canada and Mexico took place as well throughout the last century-and-a-half. To all these gallant workers who took part in these great struggles and built our unions, we are eternally grateful. Their heroic efforts will not be forgotten as we move forward into the future, inspired by their memory to win what is rightfully ours.

On this Labor Day, Railroad Workers United is proud to launch the national "**Campaign for Coordinated Bargaining.**" Carrying on a tradition within rail labor that is well over a hundred years old, we pledge to work towards a united rail labor bargaining coalition that includes all of rail labor, a coalition so strong, so united, so solid, that the carriers will not be able to break us. A coalition that will command respect at the bargaining table and in the workplace. A coalition that will stand united against the carriers' attacks, and will pledge to their respective members to stand shoulder to shoulder and stand up for each others' issues. A coalition that will effectively take on the National Carriers Conference Committee this round and win a good contract for all the rank and file!

RWU asks you to get involved in this campaign. In the coming days and weeks, RWU will be posting and distributing information about the **Coordinated Bargaining Campaign.** Please read it over, make copies and distribute to your co-workers. To be successful, it is up to all of us - carmen and clerks, trainmen and engineers, dispatchers and track workers, machinists, boilermakers, electricians, sheetmetal workers, firemen & oilers, signal maintainers and others to demand that our union leaders stand united for the common good. Today, on Labor Day, as we are reminded how divided we are in rail labor - how we are separated amongst all these craft unions - we recall the obvious truth of the labor motto, "United We Stand, Divided We Fall!" .

We can no longer afford these divisions! We must motivate our union leaders to create the coalition which will make us strong!

Happy Labor Day!

***Railroad Workers United***