

Special Report - RWU 5th Biennial Convention

New RWU Steering Committee and Alternates for 2016 - 2018

The Railroad Workers United Steering Committee is the body that meets regularly throughout the year and makes the day-to-day decisions of the organization. The size has traditionally been set at eleven (11) members and three (3) alternates.



Ross Grooters - Co-Chair

Engineer, UP, BLET #778, Des Moines, IA

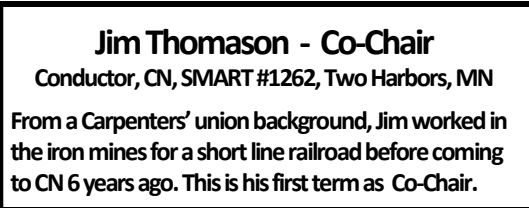
Ross has worked for Union Pacific for 10 years, first as a conductor, now engineer. Last year he served as an Alternate to the ISC and this is his first term as Co-Chair.



Jen Wallis - Co-Chair

Hostler, BNSF, BLET #238, Seattle, WA

Jen hired out with BNSF in 2004 and has worked as a brakeman, conductor and hostler. This is her second term as Co-Chair after serving on the ISC previously.



Jim Thomason - Co-Chair

Conductor, CN, SMART #1262, Two Harbors, MN

From a Carpenters' union background, Jim worked in the iron mines for a short line railroad before coming to CN 6 years ago. This is his first term as Co-Chair.



Ron Kaminkow - General Secretary

Engineer, Amtrak, BLET #51, Reno, NV

Former Conrail, former NS, Ron has been working as an engineer for Amtrak since 2004 in Milwaukee, Chicago and Reno. This is his 5th term as General Secretary.



Hugh Sawyer - Treasurer

Engineer, NS, BLET #316, Atlanta, GA

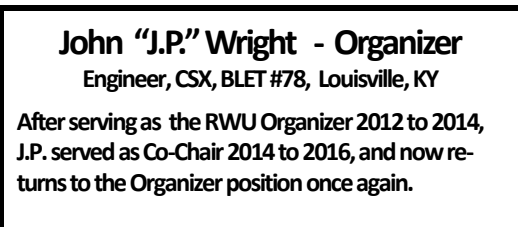
Hiring out as a brakeman in 1991, Hugh has been a conductor and engineer has served RWU in various capacities. This is his second term as Treasurer.



James Wallace - Recording Secretary

Conductor, BNSF, SMART # 305, Lincoln, NE

James has worked as a conductor for five years now both the Midwest and on the west coast. This is his third term as Recording Secretary



John "J.P." Wright - Organizer

Engineer, CSX, BLET #78, Louisville, KY

After serving as the RWU Organizer 2012 to 2014, J.P. served as Co-Chair 2014 to 2016, and now returns to the Organizer position once again.



Paul Matchett - Steering Committee

Conductor, WSOR, Janesville, WI

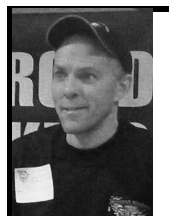
Working for non-union regional railroad Wisconsin & Southern, Paul brings a valuable perspective to the Steering Committee. This is his second term.



Cameron Slick - ISC/Trustee

Conductor, CN, SMART #911, St. Paul, MN

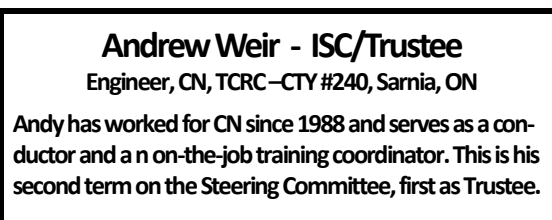
After a short stint with CN in Wisconsin, Cameron came to CP two years ago. He is currently furloughed. This is his first term on the Steering Committee.



John Vitaska - Steering Committee

Hostler/Laborer, CP, NCFO #395 Chicago, IL

John hired out 20 years ago and has worked in Chicago ever since, first for Soo Line and now CP. This is his second term on the Steering Committee.



Andrew Weir - ISC/Trustee

Engineer, CN, TCRC-CTY #240, Sarnia, ON

Andy has worked for CN since 1988 and serves as a conductor and a on-the-job training coordinator. This is his second term on the Steering Committee, first as Trustee.



Brian Clark - Trustee/Alternate

Car Inspector, CN, BRC #3060, Champaign, IL

Former bridge worker and BMWED member on the CSX, Brian came to CN about 2 years ago. This is his first term on the Steering Committee.



Robert Hill - Alternate

Engineer, BNSF, SMART #556, Tacoma, WA

Robert has served on the Steering Committee since 2010 in some capacity or another including Co-Chair from 2010 to 2012.



Alan Thompson - Alternate

Conductor, UP, SMART #316, Clinton, IA

With 43 years on the railroad (C&NW and UP), Alan has served his union in a wide variety of roles. This is his first term on the Steering Committee.