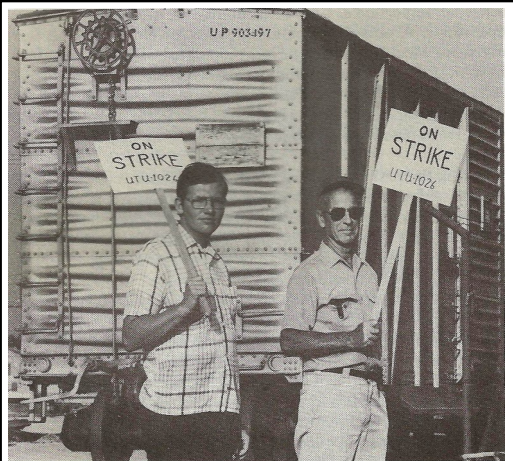


Railroad Labor Negotiations “Day of Action” Planned

With the rail unions and the rail carriers unable to reach agreement in this round of “national handling”, and the carriers digging in their heels in the face of the most modest of union contract demands, there is movement afoot for some type of “national day of action” for railroad workers and their allies



Striking UTU trainmen picket in the 1970s.

to vent their anger and frustration. We need to let the carriers know that the rank & file is supportive of their bargaining teams’ efforts to win a decent contract, and that our patience is not endless.

This winter - after two fruitless years at the bargaining table - contract negotiations were broken off between all three union bargaining coalitions (including their component 13 different labor organizations) and the rail carriers (including a total of 32 in all). Because these carriers - represented by the National Carriers Conference Committee (NCCC) - have not presented a reasonable offer that is suitable to any of the three labor coalitions, the situation is at a stalemate. So here we are again, unable to reach agreement with our employers on basic questions of wages, benefits and work rules.

The fact that rail labor is divided into thirteen different unions and three separate bargaining coalitions does not make it easy to organize an action such as this, let alone successfully bargain good contracts. But for the time being at least, we have no alternative. Each and every railroad worker in the U.S. who wants to win a decent contract must get involved in the process. Keep abreast of what your union is doing. Reach out and build bridges with co-workers from other crafts and other unions. Demand to be informed, demand to play a role in the outcome. Be ready, willing and able to take action where you live and work.

For more information and/or to assist in organizing for the day of action, email info@railroadworkersunited.org or call 202-798-3327. Leave your name, phone, email, union and terminal location. While details have not been set as we go to press in April, we expect something more concrete in the coming weeks and months. Stay tuned!