

Railroad Workers United Celebrates 10th Anniversary with 6th Convention

On April 5th and 6th, 2018, railroad workers and our allies from across North America gathered in Chicago for the 6th Biennial Convention of Railroad Workers United. The gathering marked the 10th anniversary of RWU. Those present took part in more than a dozen workshops, presentations, and topics of discussion. Titles included: *Forging a Cross-Craft Coalition of All Railroad Workers*; *Building Solidarity with the Railroad Contract Sector*; *Building the Rail Worker - Passenger - Advocates Alliance*; and *Lessons of the Lac-Mégantic Rail Workers Defense*. A few minor changes to the RWU Bylaws were approved, and six Resolutions were adopted by the body, including a Resolution in support of a mass RWU Sustainers Drive; a Resolution in Support of a Rail Safety Coalition; a Resolution in Opposition to the Criminalization of Workers; a Resolution in Support of Electronically Controlled Pneumatic Brakes; a Resolution in Support of All Craft Unity in Bargaining; and a Resolution in Support of PTC Implementation. One resolution - in Support of Converting the Railroad Industry to Public Utilities was hotly debated and ultimately referred to the Steering Committee to be taken up at a later date.

A broad array of guests were in attendance, including a number of those who made presentations, such as Jordan Barab, for-

mer OSHA Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety & Health; Nancy Lessin of the United Steelworkers Union, Maurice Amzallag, retired French railway worker and union activist, and others from the UK, Italy, and Poland.

Near the close of the Convention, the new RWU International Steering Committee (ISC) was seated, which includes five new members. The new ISC and Trustees are composed of RWU members from 11 different states and six different unions. For a full listing of all ISC members, Executive Committee members and Trustees, see the RWU website.



Railroad workers from across North America take part in the 6th biennial Convention of Railroad Workers United (RWU) in Chicago, IL on April 5th and 6th. Originally founded in Dearborn, MI in 2008, the organization celebrated its 10th anniversary this past April.

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