RWU Revamps Committee Structure, Encourages All Members’ Participation

Like any organization, RWU has a leadership body that is charged with guiding the organization between our biennial Conventions. The International Steering Committee (ISC), made up of 11 railroaders and 3 Alternates, meets monthly and makes the necessary decisions on policy, planning, expenditures, fundraising, etc. But as the organization has grown and developed, it needs more and more “sub-committees” to carry out the day-to-day tasks and spread the workload among our members.

Some of these Committees have been very successful while others are more “paper” committees that are not very active or active at all, but then might spring to life to tackle a specific issue, only to once again become dormant.

This Spring, RWU has made an attempt to build up the Committee structure by assigning a core group of dedicated members to each Committee, together with a designated Chair, in the hopes that these Committees can form the backbone of the organization, distributing the workload, getting tasks completed in a timely fashion, bringing fresh ideas and enthusiasm, and facilitating member involvement.

Many RWU members are already overwhelmed with their railroad job, union activities, family matters and more, and do not have the time to serve on a Committee. But for those members who have the time and energy and are looking to become more involved in Railroad Workers United, joining one or more Committees is a great way to jump in with both feet.

If you are an RWU member in good standing, you will soon be receiving a complete listing of all 15 Committees - both “standing” and “special” - together with a listing of RWU “Liaisons” and “Special Reps”. Please read it over carefully and contact RWU if you are interested in serving in some capacity.

Don’t see a Committee or position on the list, but you think RWU should create it? The Steering Committee is empowered to create and abolish Committees as the need arises. Please do not hesitate to bring an idea for a specific Committee, Liaison or Special Rep to the attention of the ISC for consideration.

To sign up for a specific Committee or position, contact the Chair of the Committee or the RWU General Secretary (secretary@railroadworkersunited.org, 202-798-3327). For a description of all RWU Committees and members currently serving on each, see the RWU website Page entitled RWU Committees: www.railroadworkersunited/rwu-committees.org.