President’s Roundup
By Shirley Block

Brothers & Sisters.

What a disappointment that came out of the TriMet Board on June 26. I had several meetings with TriMet prior to that meeting and had been told that the budget for Fare Inspectors FTEs was set. Clearly that wasn’t true. TriMet managed to find $750,000 and admitted there could be more coming in. This was said with a smile. No shame to record wrong information to the business partners and public.

With the contract coming open, you would think that we would be working on a better relationship between both parties. Not so with lies pouring out of the mouths of TriMet mouthpieces. During the transition with all the new management, ATU was hoping to build a better relationship with TriMet. This doesn’t seem to be the way they are going. Instead, it appears they are hell-bent on failing the entire community and labor.

All the HR Department is doing is sitting back and issuing new policies. You need to develop a relationship before you develop a policy on a change that you don’t have a clue if that policy has been tried before. I can live with change, but make the right decisions when you make these changes. Look at the history and learn from the mistakes that were made in the past. Know your front-line employees who keep the organization moving, and learn to respect them. It seems like TriMet has developed a strategy to keep the members down during the opening of contract negotiations.

Desperation drives down labor standards when the morale of the employees is in the toilet. The management team at TriMet is missing that point.

For TriMet to succeed, they must keep us as divided as possible. That’s what they are trying to do in the Maintenance Department, Supervisor Training Department, OCC, Streetcar, Customer Service, and Fare Inspectors.

Well, I’ve got news for them. They are trying to destroy the pathway into the apprenticeship program on the bus side instead of working to fix the existing program. That proves that all new management is afraid to decide anything without going through HR and HR points their fingers back at Transportation and say it’s their fault when something goes wrong. It seems that all these demons are showing their true colors.

Labor and the community will be joining together, and we will be stronger in this fight to correct the behavior of spending taxpayers’ dollars (our dollars as we are taxpayers) to outside contractors who are taking that money out of Portland.

Again, I want to reach out to CC Rider and welcome them to ATU.

And congratulations to C-Tran members and management for being selected by APTA as “Best Transit System in the nation for 2019.”

In Salem, having Labor-Management meetings with Cherriots on a regular monthly basis is working great for both sides. Together we work hard to understand and find solutions to small issues, before they get out of hand. I enjoy working with Paula and David.

We are working to get contracts signed soon in Canby, Tillamook, and Corvallis.

We the Union. We Are Community. We Are One.

Vice President’s Report
Contract negotiations are underway

By Jonathan Hunt

Dear Sisters & Brothers.

It’s been a busy month. We met with the ATU/TruMet pension board. We are currently 82% funded on our pension.

I attended our Northwest Conference which meets every year. Good information was shared.

I also attended International President Larry Hanley’s memorial service. It reminded me of our former International President who passed away all too early in life, Ron Heintzman. Both spent the majority of their careers working tirelessly for the membership.

We are in contract negotiations with Portland Public Schools, First Student Mechanics, MV Canby, and Tillamook.

We recently settled contracts with Empire Transit in Astoria, and CC Rider.

TriMet negotiations will begin early October. However, next month we will be in small table discussions with subject experts from each group discussing issues to bring to negotiations.

Secretary Treasurer’s Report
Shop Stewards are needed and appreciated

By Mary Longoria

Greetings, Sisters & Brothers.

Labor Day this year will be celebrated on Sept. 2. I want members and families to think about how far the labor movement has come, while remembering how far we have to go.

The labor movement was born out of the struggles of workers for safety, child labor, long days, and the hope for a better future for working people. Does some of this still sound familiar? We hope our employers will come to the realization that without front-line workers, their jobs do not exist.

There are millions of workers in the United States who still have no representation, no rights, no voice, no one to negotiate for them and, sadly, most employers want it that way. They take the very fabric that intertwines us together and try to split us apart; to weaken our voice so they are the ones in control. They want us to be confrontational with each other, they want us to argue with each other about anything — sign-ups, wages, politics, the homeless population, immigration, and anything else they can throw our way. The old saying “Divide and Concur” really works, if you let it.

We need to go to the “Unite and Build” approach so we can all prosper in this great country. Take a moment and read a historical article about the Triangle-Shirtwaist-Fire that happened in 1911, where 145 workers were killed in the fire. https://www.history.com/topics/early-20th-century-us/triangle-shirtwaist-fire.

We also have the “ATU 757: 100 Year Anniversary” book of our struggles and successes available at the Union Office. I invite you to please stop by, pick one up, and meet your ATU officers and staff.

“The labor movement did not diminish the strength of the nation, but enlarged it. By raising the living standards of millions, labor miraculously created a market for industry and lifted the whole nation to undreamed of levels of production. Those who attack labor forget these truths, but history remembers them.” DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SPEECH TO AFL-CIO, DEC. 11, 1961.

Happy Labor Day! Together we can make a difference!
Hello, Brothers & Sisters,

I hope you and your families all have fun at our Annual Picnic! This is one of our few opportunities to get together, as the large group we are—outside of our busy and demanding responsibilities—to celebrate, and enjoy all our hard work and unity! Awesomeaffle prizes; good food; kids’ activities; bingo; music; fellowship, and more, are all things we get to enjoy, together!

This is a form of participation in your Union. Just by attending, you are showing support, and often, you get to see that the more we work together, the more we are able to get done.

I know we don’t always agree on everything, but if we can give-and-take with our Brothers and Sisters, just as we do while negotiating our Collective Bargaining Agreement (“CBA” = “Contract”), and can have some patience with the process, we usually have a better result.

As the word Union implies, it takes the efforts of many, not just a few, to get things done. Get out there and exercise your opportunity to voice your opinion with your participation! That participation can take shape in a variety of ways: Attending monthly Charter Meetings (see Page 12 or go to the ATU 757 website, ‘Calendar’), participation in events or actions, marching in parades, (see ATU 757 website, ‘Events’ or ‘Calendar’), educating ourselves (see ATU 757 website, ‘Training’), talking to your Reps and Liaisons, Stewards, and each other.

Many of us are looking for ways to introduce, educate and inform our newer members to the many aspects of this job, our company, our Union, and how it all works together. There is some very good info on the ATU 757 website that can give you insight to what the Union does, why they do it, how they do it, and what you can do to help the process move forward. There is some great info on Grievances, Shop Stewards, Assaulats, Contracts, and more!

So, please visit our website: www.atu757.org. From our Home Page, go to the “Training” tab, from the drop down menu, choose any of the Topics that interest you. You don’t have to do it all at once. Do it in pieces, as your schedule allows. It will be there, waiting for you. Once again, if you have not heard/seen these sessions, they are not only for training Stewards (not to say that we can always use more Stewards to lighten the load), but to educate all Union members, as well as inform newer em-

ployees what the Union is about, and the many positive reasons there are to support your Union!

Be Safe Out There! Work Together, Brothers & Sisters, In the Field & Yard! In Unity

TriMet Center Transportation

As reported by DARIN HAGEY

I hope everyone is having a good summer. The weather hasn’t felt like summer, but I will take it!

We have our annual picnic at Blue Lake Park. I hope everyone has a chance to enjoy the festivities with your family. I had three grievances filed at Powell for warning letters and electronic devices. They are waiting for meetings to be set and go through the process.

The Union and TriMet made an agreement to change the lens above the driver to a wider lens and to add audio. I hope you stopped by the information tables for the garages with Shirley and Patrick to get all the info about this Agreement.

We are having a few small-table negotiations meeting with TriMet. Our big table negotiations start in October. No dates are set yet. I have put together a school supply drive for local schools for low income kids and hoping that between donations from both TriMet and ATU members, we can get a bus full of supplies to help children in need. We want to show how we can come together for a good cause. I would like to make this a yearly event. Each year we could do different supplies to a different school.

I will keep it short because I don’t want to sound like a broken record about accidents and other issue’s but please read and know your SOPs and your union contract. Knowledge is power! Thank you and be safe! Remember, safety before schedules! Take your breaks and stay hydrated.

TriMet Powell Transportation

As reported by KRIS ALDRANDER

I hope everyone is having a good summer. The weather hasn’t felt like summer, but I will take it!

We have our annual picnic at Blue Lake Park. I hope everyone has a chance to enjoy the festivities with your family. I had three grievances filed at Powell for warning letters and electronic devices. They are waiting for meetings to be set and go through the process.

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I will keep it short because I don’t want to sound like a broken record about accidents and other issue’s but please read and know your SOPs and your union contract. Knowledge is power! Thank you and be safe! Remember, safety before schedules! Take your breaks and stay hydrated.

TriMet Merlo Transportation

As reported by MICHAEL MCCRURY

Greetings, Brothers & Sisters.

I want to thank the NW Labor Conference and those hosting it, as it was educational and fun.

As you all know, the SIP Program is still off the charts in crazy. I have filed grievances and I am pursuing every opportunity I have to fix the morale problem. I find it crazy that a complaint can find the right person super-fast, and yet compliments take forever or are lost. When TriMet disciplines because of a missed potential passenger (Pass Up), yet refuses to fix the bus stop that enables those to have a safe place to wait, it becomes a recipe for a self-fulfilling prophecy.

I am happy to see folks set up at the Union booth for sign up. I encourage members to contact your Union Rep for accurate information regarding rumors, MOAs MOUs, etc. Do not rely on bullpen rumors! Agreements take time and are a strategic give and take. Most of the time both sides do not get exactly what they want. When you are involved, participate, this is YOUR Union!

Be safe and never drive tired or angry.

TriMet Light Rail Transportation

As reported by ANTHONY FORRESTER

Happy Rails, Friends!

I hope you are getting the chance to relax a little and enjoy the beautiful weather.

I have heard rumors of managers and the potential for other personnel wanting to ride along in the cabo of trains with operators. Rule B2.5 “Operators may not decline Rail Transportation training personnel access to active or inactive cabo to perform training related duties.” Let me put it another way. If it is anyone other than a train rider that wishes to ride in the cabo of your train, and you do not feel comfortable with the person in the cabo of the train, you can deny them entry. If a person knocks on the door, you need to make sure you are safe. When talking to them, you should always be professional, but you do not have to let them into the cabo of your train to observe you while you operate.

I have been told, “TriMet will assert that it is their cabo and they should have access to it.” You need to know that you do not have to operate your train if there is anyone outside of training that is wanting access to your cabo. It’s about safety.

I would like to take a moment to talk about radio protocol. I am hearing too much disrespect and berating by people on both sides of the radio. Operators, there are times that control gets a little curt on the radio. Give them the benefit of the doubt and respond like you would like to be responded to. Controllers, I am hearing too much berating over the air. Talk to operators like you would want to be talked to. Let me add two things for all people on the radio. First, we need to respect each other. Second, if you take a breath and realize you said something you probably shouldn’t have, apologize. “People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” – Maya Angelou

Lastly, if you get assaulted, if you get pulled off the train for a mistake, or if you are put on admin leave, CALL ME as soon as you can. If you cannot reach me and need to talk to someone right away, call one of my Liaison Officers or Shop Stewards.

The more informed we are, the better we are, the stronger we are.
member here at C-TRAN. Each and every one of you have performed over and above. One thing I wholeheartedly agree with CEO Shawn Donaghy is that we here at C-TRAN have World-Class Employees. Every one of you takes great pride in delivering the quality service that our community expects. Congratulations folks, you did this! Go ATU!!

Remember, when asking yourself why I should stay Union, union contracts provide far more protections than state and federal laws. Union members earn better wages and benefits than workers who aren’t union members. It’s the right thing to do.

Ever forward, in Solidarity.

Greetings, Sisters & Brothers.

Summer is in full swing as I write this article. We made it through the Country Fair, Garth Brooks, and Butte-to-Butte. Right around the corner is football season.

I’ve been attending quite a few meetings lately where it has become apparent that our Operators are doing their best work, trying to get our passengers from Point A to Point B, only to have it come back on them for trying to keep the “schedule.” These schedules, especially anything affected by the upick in construction, are unrealistic. I’m finding that Operators are feeling pressure to meet the riders’ needs at the expense of their own. Take care of yourself. Call Ops if you need a moment at the end of a route that can be long. Be kind to passengers who may be frustrated, and inform them that they are welcome to call LTD to tell management to do better. Remember, in the end, LTD management is responsible for staffing, to ensure that there are enough buses to provide the scheduled service, and to create an environment where LTD employees can be successful.

In my meetings with Ops, they tell me they value communication, they are our advocate, our back-up, use them to take the liability away from yourself in an ill-fitting situation. As I look forward, it looks like fall will be just as busy this summer. We are starting contract negotiations for our Public Safety brothers and sisters. Maintenance will be digesting a consultant report on Fleet practices and Operations will be feeling the brunt of the new E-Fare system, coupled with the return of the Student Pass and the new low-income fares. If you have an idea or heard something that sounds like your Union Officers should know, find one of us.

Funderburk and Gang have been great; stepping up when the need arises. Jordan in Maintenance has been rock-solid. Hampton and Lora have been harnessed up, but they are still active in our running conversations about issues that arise daily. Trevor and Elyce are always available for their co-workers. They say that the only constant is change, and it’s never been more true to me than this very instant. Take care out there everyone.

Hello, Brothers & Sisters.

I hope all is well for you and your loved ones.

In the 25 years I’ve been at TriMet, I have never worked under such a dysfunctional management team. I wish the District leaders would practice what they preach when they say that management wants to create a better work environment for their frontline employees. If that was true, the District wouldn’t be in the predicament that it is now, especially in the Maintenance Departments. Without a plan of filling the apprenticeship programs, it has created a void of qualified personal in all the Maintenance Departments. This management team has a very ill-minded way of thinking when it comes to internal promoting. This has left no real growth or promotional opportunities unless you are willing to accept low wages when applying for an internal position. That has left the District with unskilled managers, trainers and supervisors. This has also put on hold/disrupted one of the nation’s best last transit state-approved apprenticeship programs. It was a ground-up training program that provided opportunities for anyone and everyone. I will admit, it needed some minor adjustments and tweaks, but not to be destroyed. It is not fair to any of the new-hire service workers that came to TriMet looking for growth and opportunities. Some people have left good jobs only to find out that they now have no path way into one of the seven journey workers positions that TriMet had to offer.

With this new management team, I really thought the Union and District had a good chance to improve our relationship, work out some needed changes, and get the program up and going again. Damn, was I wrong! All this new management team is emitting so far is disparities amongst the workforce. In the world of Rail Maintenance, Brothers and Sisters, Thank You! It’s your continued hard work and safety practices, that’s what is keeping Rail up and running in every department. As we all know every department is inadequately staffed with people, parts and equipment. Storeroom personnel, I don’t know how you all do it but good job. Wayside cleaners the platforms and park & rides are looking great. The Landscapers y’all are working miracles, good job with the landscaping projects. I thank you of for putting in the overtime to make it happen. TriMet really needs to hire more in-house union employees and stop outsourcing our members work.

With the new cell phone policy in effect I suggest you all follow it. To my understanding not every Rail Department has a copy of the new rules. In


Names in bold print/caps are our 50-year retirees — thank you for your service, sisters & brothers!

IN MEMORIUM: Laura Butler

Retired Members’ Chapter Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 7th at 9:30 a.m. at Westmoreland Union Manor, 6404 SE 23rd Ave. Coffee and doughnuts will be served at 9 a.m. The following months meeting will begin on Wednesday, September 4th at 9:30 a.m.
**SHOP STEWARDS AND FUTURE LEADERS**

Are you an ATU 757 shop steward? A rank-and-file member who’s looking to get more active in the union? Join leadership and staff every month before our Charter Meeting for the Shop Steward and Future Leaders Meeting to help us drive ATU’s organizing in 2019 and beyond!

The Shop Stewards and Future Leaders Meeting will take place at 5 p.m., Monday, August 19, at the Salvation Army, Rose Center for Seniors, 211 NE 18th Ave., Portland.

**CHARTER**

Charter members meet at 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 19, at the Salvation Army Rose Center for Seniors, 211 NE 18th Ave., Portland. The Charter day meeting is 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 20, at ATU 757 Schoppert Hall, 1801 NE Couch St., Portland.

**SALEM TRANSIT/MV**

Salem members meet 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 20, at the Broadway Commons Africa Room; 1300 Broadway Street NE; Salem.

**VALLEY TRANSIT**

Walla Walla members meet 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, at WS DOT Maintenance Building, 1210 G Street, Walla Walla.

**LANE TRANSIT**

Eugene members meet 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 21, at the Woodworkers Local Lodge, 1124 South A St., Springfield.

**PPS/First STUDENT PORTLAND**

Members meet 6 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 22, at Scott School Library, 6700 NE Prescott St., Portland (room 403).

**COIC/Bend**

Central Oregon members meet 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, at Jackson Creek Pizza Company, 317 E Main St. Medford.

**ROGUE VALLEY TRANSPORTATION**

Southern Oregon members meet 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, at Jackson Creek Pizza Company, 317 E Main St. Medford.

**TILLAMOOK/TCTD**

Tillamook members meet 1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 25, at Reedsport Bar and Grill, 214 Pacific Ave.

**CORVALLIS**

No meeting in August.

**C-TRAN/C-VAN**

Vancouver-area members meet at 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 25, at the Laborers/Teamsters Hall, 2212 NE Andrews, Vancouver.

**COLUMBIA AREA TRANSIT-HOOD RIVER**

Members meet 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27, at the Columbia Area Transit Break Room, 224 Wasco Loop, Hood River.

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**FROM PAGE 11**

**R.E.M. DO NOT USE YOUR CELL PHONE in unauthorized areas. I don’t care if it’s to help you perform your job function; JUST DON’T DO IT!**

Management, you should be held to a higher standard than us Union folks. All TriMet employees, from executive directors on down, should be subjected to the random drug testing policy and competency work reviews from the Union employees in their department. I strongly believe the time has come for this to happen. Transit agency employees should be subjected to random drug testing policy whether you have a CDL or not. You’re making some vital decisions that could possibly put people’s lives in danger.

Brothers and Sisters, as for the so-called diversity push in TriMet, don’t let that rhetoric fool you. That’s only been for management-side you, know the people chilling up in the office. Just because they may say that they identify with you, the same race, sex, gender, look, talk or even act like you, doesn’t mean they are here to help you my Brothers and Sisters.

Don’t you ever forget, without a Working & Wage Agreement you are screwed. No one gave you a damn thing! It was all negotiated and now they want it back. We’re about to go into negotiations with these so-called people. Do Y’all hear what I’m saying? Actions speak louder than words! Watch out for wolves in sheep clothing. Just remember this, they are your bosses. This is a business and they are here to protect TriMet’s interests! Just do your job and do it well. No favors, no short cuts…just follow the procedures. TriMet is an okay place to work, however, it used to be a better place. You used to be able to build a good career here, but now that there’s a push to Diversify the union-side of the workforce, they want to turn it into a job!

Management, you have a chance to make this place look appealing to a young and diversified workforce again; a place where your current employees would want to encourage their friends, family and community-members to come and join our team. Together we can make TriMet a place where employees love to come work again!

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**GREETINGS, fellow Brothers & Sisters.**

Management has informed me that they intend to conduct the fall bid this month. If their plan pans out, look for that in your boxes soon.

As of late, management has been going nuts with camera discipline and what is highly suspected to be blatant fishing on the part of the Company. This is despite management repeatedly reassuring me that they will not fish. If you receive a Letter of Direction or Letter of Warning for any instance that involves the cameras, that is not the result of a complaint generated through customer service, please inform myself or one of my shop stewards immediately.

I also want you to file a grievance against the discipline immediately within ten days of receiving it. If you do not know how to file a grievance, contact myself or Shop Stewards Kathleen Brown, Klari Cannard or Andrew Brown. Please bear in mind, Klari cannot assist you with this when she is on the clock working.

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**TWAS A GRAND TIME AT THE RETIREES’ PICNIC.** Bravo to John, Shirley and cohorts staff. Great serve up of tasty eats and good vibes were abundant. event well

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**Warren HoefT**

As reported by

**MULLIGAN’S STEW**

As reported by

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I hope that your summer is going well. Not much in the way of weather in Portland, but it is kind of nice having it be on the cooler side.

Not much to report for last month but would like to remind everyone that our summer is going to end soon, and we have two big, fun events coming up. Our first fun event is our Company picnic on August 2nd. Please, if you can, bring your favorite side dish or dishes and come join the fun. The second event is the annual ATU picnic on August 4th. Food, beverages and prizes are provided! I hope to see everyone there!

Hope to see y’all there in solidarity.

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**FIRST STUDENT PORTLAND**

As reported by

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As reported by

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**AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION - DIVISION 757**

Representing working men and women in Oregon and Washington at

TriMet • Lane Transit District • C-TRAN/C-VAN • Salem Area Mass Transit District • MV Canby • MV Salem • Rogue Valley Transportation District • Bend Extended Area Transit • Cascades East Transit • Tillamook County Transportation District • Valley Transit Association • First Transit Regions 1, 2 and 3 • City of North Bonneville • Portland Public Schools • First Student Portland • First Student Corvallis • MTR Corvallis • Lamar Advertising Company • Columbia Area Transit-Hood River • ATU Retired Member Chapter • Sunset Empire Transportation District, Astoria • CC Rider