Steward's Corner 4

Even though we are waiting for the NLRB to grant us an election to give drivers a choice between the unions, we are filling the gap that UPSEU left as they continue to collect dues. We will continue to collect victories in the meantime.

Victories

We were able to secure a $1.75 raise for workers in Glasgow, MT, and Laurel, MT. This increase was supposed to have been implemented three years ago during the last contract cycle. However, through the organizing efforts and strong support for our movement at both yards, the company finally implemented the raise this year.

We have been able to get extra time added to a worker's check in Georgia because he arrived earlier than expected. Every minute should count toward pay; otherwise, it is theft.

In-Progress

A small yard in Kentucky opened a bid for a job position. One of the workers with the most seniority, who was ready to move to full-time hours, bid on the position. However, the manager stated that positions were no longer being awarded based on seniority, but rather on whom the manager believed was most qualified. The manager ultimately awarded the position to a new hire.

In response, we submitted a grievance to ensure that job positions remain open to all eligible employees and are awarded based on seniority, as required by the contract.

We are continuing to work on the grievance to check and make sure everyone gets their raises of 2.35%-4.75% and signing bonuses of $50-$200 according to the contract. If you have not received either your pay raise (beginning August 1st) or signing bonus on your paycheck in September, then be sure to reach out.

UPSEU may not care enforcing the contract, but we do. We must act as a union and protect our collective interests. If you have a problem, be sure to to reach out to an organizer(manny.stewart@ueunion.org), and we will see if we can get it resolved.

Rail Crew Drivers United

UE already represents thousands of Drivers. Join today!

Rail Crew Drivers United

On the Board

Rail-Crew Drivers United Official Newsletter

Who are we?

"On the Board" is the newsletter of PTI Drivers United (UE), written by PTI drivers for PTI drivers to learn what is happening at yards across the country and what we can do about it. PTI Drivers United is the only union fighting for our rights on the job. We are building a community of informed drivers who know their rights and work together to protect each other.

Union FAQ

Q: How can we build a union that fights for drivers?

A: For months drivers have been signing cards with UE, and the campaign to change our union is ongoing. If you support change, talk to whoever gave you this newsletter. In the meantime, we can build the union we want by talking to our coworkers and making sure they know their rights under the contract.

Q: What's the difference between UPSEU and UE?

A: UPSEU is what's known as a "Business Union" meaning a few unelected staff members make all decisions for the union and seek to work with the company for their own interests, not the workers. UE is a "Rank and File" Union which means the workers run the union. All decisions are made democratically, and they fight for the interests of the members.

Q: I've heard that now that we're under contract, we can't switch. Is that true?

A: No, our petition is still being contested at the NLRB. They will rule on if an election will be held. We still have Unfair Labor Practices (ULPs) that the board has to rule on as well. Drivers deserve a choice. UE is committed to making sure drivers have that choice and opportunity to fight for a better future in the industry.

Q: How can i get involved? What can I do to help?

*A: Sign your cards with UE at **ptiunion.org**. If your yard doesn't have someone who hands out the newsletter, volunteer to be the point person in your yard. Talk to your coworkers about their issues and start a group chat of just drivers to keep each other informed. If you have questions or want to help drivers in other yards get involved too, email manny.stewart@ueunion.org.*

UPSEU Contract

Contract Fails Drivers by Sarah Jones

While the new contract does include some minimal raises, signing bonuses, and other financial adjustments, it is far less than we could have won if drivers were involved in the process. it's important to know that the contract passed with only ~5% of drivers being allowed to vote. Not only did it pass this way, but it was bargained in private meetings with no transparency. This compromises the integrity of UPSEU!

What drivers did not get was an opportunity to be heard! Being heard is extremely important for the purpose of improving our work/life balance, the atmosphere among people we work with, and our ability to build a career.

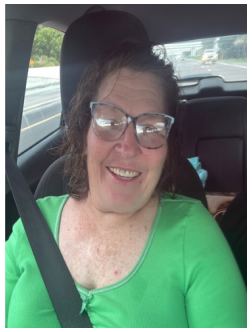
I mentioned to a current UPSEU representative that something as simple as paid sick time could have greatly affected my ability to take time off during the unexpected tragic death of my brother and his response was, "that was not something that was brought to the bargaining table."

Why wasn't it? Because only a handful of drivers were brought to the table at all. It's really important to acknowledge these words because anything "not brought to the bargaining table" can and will affect drivers and their families all over the country. The bargaining table is the one place employees have a chance to advocate for a better and safer work environment that local state and federal laws may not provide. UPSEU has taken this opportunity from us while claiming to act in our best interest.

Rail Crew Drivers United
website
https://ptiunion.org/home/

UE already represents thousands of Drivers. Join today!

Drivers Speak Out



Becky Helms

PTI Florida Winston CSX Yard

PTI claims that the contract doesn't apply to us at all. There is nothing in the language that recognizes our seniority from RCX.

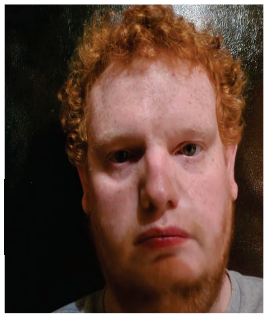


Joseph Johnson

Ohio Portsmouth NS Yard

We still are not compensated for shifts when we on duty and never get called out. Our healthcare still does not include vision coverage

Does the new contract address your needs?



Mike Held

PTI NS Kenova WV Yard

PTI needs more vans and better maintenance programs, which the contact does not address. Sick days and vacation days are still by hours worked. They need to pay us for on-call time if we don't get trips for that day.