

January 2022

General Chairman's Report

Happy New Years to everyone. I would like to thank everyone for all the hard work all of you have put in over the last two years. Covid-19 has taxed all of us, but I can say that I'm proud of our membership dedication to our craft.

- The Organization will be meeting with the Carrier to discuss all of the bulletin issues over the last month and half. We will update everyone of any resolution when that times come. I know the last change reverting back to where everyone settled in after the Fall Rollover was difficult and untimely, but no one should have gotten a second bite at the apple. The advertisement on those bulletins violated everyone's Seniority. The decisions had to be made based on the Agreement and what's best for the majority.
- Covid-19 Home Test compensation should began being paid every third Thursday of the month. Compensation will be made retroactively. Members will now be afforded the ability to drop their completed Home Test in NYPS and Hoboken. This information should come out in the Division Notice. Members must either be vaccinated, or if not vaccinated take the Home Test.
- A new round of mask bundles should be coming out in the upcoming days.
- Cleaning of equipment has been an ongoing issue and has been addressed as a Safety Concern by the Organization. Temperature permitting, the company Fleetwash will be washing cars by hand, and once finished, the washing regime should commence once again. This will start with the trains out of Gladstone.

- We are working with the Carrier to streamline the Color Vision Test. The process as currently constructed is too timely and inefficient. We are working with the Rules Department on this issue.
- We received permission to work with the Carrier and Training Department on updating our current Study Guide for members attending Conductor Certification. Brother Agnese will be working with the Training Department to update the Study Guides.
- We are working with the Carrier to set up a tutorial on the Self Help Portal and E-Time Cards. We made the request for the IT department to come up with an instructional video that can be shared by the Union with our members.
- The Carrier has hired an outside contractor to address the Crow issue at Dover Terminal.
- Brothers and Sister please use your MVD's. We are continually adding features and addressing outstanding issues to make the MVD more user friendly for our members. The Carrier will be coming out to ensure our members are using their respective MVD device.
- A motion was made and carried at our November 2021 Local Meeting. The motion was made to freeze Local Union dues for the year 2022. The Smart-TD International has done the same for 2022.
- The Carrier will be reaching out to the FRA regarding the use of Electronic Books on our MVD as a replacement for carrying our books. This isn't only for hands on access, but also can assist in the storage issues on the multi-level equipment.
- We are also working with the Carrier to find a better and more efficient way for our members to receive their Verbal Test when qualifying the Physical Characteristics. We are working with the Training Department and Acting VP of Rail on this issue.

- A revised Cell Phone Policy should be coming out shortly. This will not protect the blatant use of one's personal electronic device.

Once again we would like to thank everyone for your professionalism.