Fighting Through the Pandemic

By Lynwood Whichard  
Vice President

I wish to express my deepest condolences to the families of the members we lost to the Coronavirus. As a union, we remained constant and committed to ensuring that we protected the membership during the Pandemic.

We successfully fought off management’s attempts to bring in contractors to do our traditional work during the pandemic when many members were out sick. We were never going to allow that.

I want to urge you to continue to take proactive measures with your lives with exercise and proper dieting. Keeping our immune systems strong can provide some assurances during this pandemic.

We have been in the field and will continue to provide support as we face this issue that has dropped like a ton of bricks on us to no fault of our own. I contacted many companies in the past months in an effort to get supplies during the height of the pandemic, and we were successful.

We were also the first department to get the blue masks systemwide.

A special “thanks” goes out to everyone who helped hand out supplies. It was a great team effort.

Watch What You Post

On another note, management has become more aggressive at monitoring social media and have been pulling members out of service for discipline. Be careful what you say on social media. Remember the rule states that our conduct must merit the confidence of the public 24 hours a day. In other words, all the time. So be careful.

Pension Buyouts Just Talk

There’s been a lot of talk about pension buy-outs. Right now, that’s all it is. Talk!

For a buyout to happen, it would need to be passed by the State Legislature in Albany. On the rare occasions it has happened in the past, the employer has the right to limit it to certain titles. The measure has not moved anywhere yet.

President Utano in the Field

Many of you have seen President Tony Utano out and about during the Pandemic. Make no mistake about it, we have fought behind the scenes on many issues.

Many of the PPE’s that have been distributed to our department came because we fought for them.

Nothing is given without a FIGHT!

Making Progress

I will continue to be vigilant on behalf of our department. I am happy to say in under one year, We have stabilized many things such as, the Comfort Relief App, Enhanced Website, Electronic Holiday Picks with concrete stipulations and more....

Please check our website at Transport Workers Union Local 100.org/Stations.

Marching for BLM and Social Justice

As of now, no revenue will be coming back to the booths. We will continue to fight to make things safe.

New team members Carl Moon Havens and Hector King Dawkins with Vice President Lynwood Whichard (center).
Roosevelt Ave. Meeting Sees Some Progress on Pay, PPE Issues

JUNE 11 -- The COVID-19 crisis has caused massive backlogs in pay and the renewal of EPIC passes for the membership.

When responding to management’s commending of our CTA’s work at Roosevelt Avenue, I made it my priority to raise these issues with Sr. VP for Subways Sally Librera.

Management’s position on hazard pay remains the same: they say they support it, but we believe they could do much more to push it forward. T-shirts are nice, but let’s see management do more than photo ops.

I was assured by Stations Chief David Santoro that people would get paid on time, and that they will sort out the different pay categories COVID, administrative, etc.) to make sure we have accurate checks. I have been assured of a focus on paying our teams that work OT.

Mets masks: We were promised them, and they will be handed out.

The yellow reflective shirts which I fought for and won are looking good in the field. Let’s keep safe and professional.

— Robert Kelley
Division Chair
From the Desk of the Division Chair

By Robert Kelley
Division Chair

I would like to thank all of you who sent me well wishes during the time I was out sick with the Coronavirus. Your thoughts and prayers were well received.

They truly helped me get through this terrible plague on our society.

Despite the obstacles during the pandemic, Station Department was up and running.

We fought hard to get the Collectors tour change to the night tour.

Our staff worked tirelessly and never gave up on service. To date, our member response time has significantly increased. Please continue to call our command center (5) days a week for service. Please be reminded that we intake all important information to send to the various departments to make sure they get resolved.

Over the past year we have made many changes to operations. If you cannot reach a specific rep, please call another person and our office. Don’t wait for that one rep. We are here to help. On all Labor Relations matters we are still at the lowest point in discipline. I have reorganized the entire office to keep pace with all sections in stations.

We still have a long way to go to keep our department strong. With your continued involvement, we will get there sooner than later.

Thanks to our Local 100 Communications Department, I was one of the dads who recovered from Covid 19 to be interviewed by the Daily News for a feature on Father’s Day. I guess the photo editor thought I was so handsome (laughing emoji) that he had to blow up my photo almost the size of the page. (below)

Anyway, I’m happy to be back doing my best to represent this great membership. Stay well, and stay strong.

Updating Your Info And Beneficiaries

When was the last time you UPDATED your information? You may think this is no big deal, but it really is. Periodically you need to see if your beneficiary information, addresses, and emergency contact information is correct.

We get caught up in our day to day life. No one expects to pass away suddenly or get severely injured. Here is why we need to have the correct information in the necessary databases.

Occasionally a member will pass away and their beneficiary has preceded them in death. In this situation the benefit may NOT get disbursed to anyone. We work long and hard for the benefits we have. Don’t let the MTA, NYS Pension or Insurance Companies keep what you worked for. Here are a few places that you need to contact:

- Business Service Center (BSC) - 646-376-0123
- NYCERS - 347-643-3000
- Local 100 - 212-873-6000
- Credit Union - 212-693-4900
- All State Insurance - 732-242-8203
- Human Resources - 347-643-8197

For more info, call TWU Local 100 Member Services: 347-643-8067
Big Win in Stations as Management Agrees to Release AVA's

JUNE 17 — Stations’ availability stats have been climbing since the worst of the pandemic, when many of our co-workers were quarantined or sick.

In spite of the sacrifices made every day by our workforce, management was adamant that they would continue to place a hold on AVA's

That changed today when your leadership challenged management directly. We asserted our contractual and legal rights —

and we can now report that as of this coming Monday, June 22, your AVA’s requests will be honored.

— Lynwood Whichard
Vice President

Issued by:
TWU Local 100, Dept. of Stations
195 Montague Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201
www.twulocal100.org/stations
Lactation Pods Now Operational at New Locations for Stations Dept.

In a victory for the Union last year, lactation PODS were installed at Boro Hall on the 2,3,4 and 5 line and at Parsons Archer in Queens.

For additional Lactation locations in Station Department, members should contact Sr. Director Ms. Dawn Rose, from NYCT at (718) 694-3085. You can email her at Dawn.Rose@nyct.com. You can also contact your union representative, Ms. Spearman-Martin at (917) 434-0311 or email her at: sspearman-martin@twulocal100.org.

PODS are a private space where a mother may express her breast milk during her workday to bring it home later to her child.

Issued by:
TWU Local 100, Dept. of Stations
195 Montague Street, Brooklyn, NY
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Around Town With TWU
With TWU
Union Puts Our Questions to Management Amid Photo-Op

JUNE 11 — Members appreciated the “NY Tough” t-shirts distributed by management at Hudson Yards, but Sarah Feinberg, who is now the President of New York City Transit (photo at right) was not familiar with the fact that Station supervision has been slow to complete paperwork, resulting in missing paychecks for many members.

In response to my question about hazard pay, Ms. Feinberg said she looks to the federal government for aid, rather than committing to finding the money here and now. Asked about a contract for our Brother and Sisters at the other MTA unions, she also pleaded poverty on behalf of the MTA.

She is new on the job but she knows how to pull the levers of power. Bringing the system back means supporting the workers on these issues.

— Lynwood Whichard
VP, Stations Dept
ATTENTION STATION DIVISION MEMBERS

Union Challenges ‘Security Contractors’

A Message from Vice President Lynwood Whichard

Stations members may be noticing additional personnel on platforms and near turnstiles wearing official MTA Safety Vests and carrying a NYCT System Access Pass.  *(See NYCT Bulletin below.)*

Under the state’s Covid 19 emergency laws, the MTA is authorized to employ these people to perform certain security services as a deterrent to fare evasion, and as an extra layer of safety for passengers and transit workers at a time when the NYPD and the MTA Department of Security are stretched thin.

I personally spoke to transit management and to the head of the contracting company to make our position clear that these workers ARE NOT TO PERFORM any customer service duties.  **This is our work.** I visited areas where these contractors have been deployed (in above photo) and instructed them to direct passengers with customer service needs to a Wayfinder or Station Agent.  They said they understood their restrictions and would comply.

If you feel that one of these security contractors has crossed the line into our work, notify your union representative, and we will take action immediately.

Stay strong, stay safe.

The union has your back.
INTRODUCING THE NEWLY REDESIGNED STATIONS WEBPAGE
TWULOCAL100.ORG/STATIONS

We took the time and consideration to make sure that all of the content we need to communicate to you can be easily found in one place and at the click of a button.

Visit Stations Online Today and get Familiar with the New Sections that have been Created for you!
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HOSTED BY STATIONS CHAIR
ROBERT KELLEY

To register:
Contact Stations Vice Chair Saim Montakim at smontakim@twulocal100.org
You will be notified on how to attend.

Stations Department | Lynwood Whichard, Vice President | Robert Kelley, Chair | www.twulocal100.org
Attention All Stations Division Members

New Union Office
At 130 Livingston Street
5th floor (down the hall from the OSAC Office)

Union Office Hours of Operation
Monday thru Friday – 8:00am to 4:00pm.

Note: During off peak hours members, can contact City Hall at: 212-712-5891.
Night Representation Tel. 516-819-7111 or 718-915-1788.