



Transportation Communications International Union



GOD BLESS AMERICA.

Robert A. Scardelletti
International President

Daniel Biggs
International Secretary-Treasurer

Official Announcement of TCU's 33rd Regular Convention

November 2008

Greetings:

The Thirty-Third Regular Convention of the Transportation Communications International Union will be held at Paris Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada, commencing at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2009, and will continue from day to day until completion of the business of the Convention, including the election of International Officers, and shall conclude not later than Friday, July 31, 2009.

The Carmen Division of TCU will convene at 9:00 a.m., Monday, July 27, 2009 for the purpose of conducting the business of the Division, including election of Division officers and shall conclude that same day.

Article 6 of the TCU Grand Lodge Constitution

This Official Call letter summarizes provisions of Article 6 of the TCU Grand Lodge Constitution governing Convention representation, the nomination and election of delegates, qualifications required of delegates, and other matters. Potential delegates and all other interested persons may refer to Article 6 of the Constitution for a more complete explanation. It is important to bear in mind, however, that the application of Article 6 has been significantly affected by the decisions of former System Boards, Joint Protection Boards and System Divisions to relinquish their charters. As a result, those subordinate units no longer exist. Their former districts were converted to lodges, and all lodges report directly to the TCU Grand Lodge.

In order to clarify the application of Article 6 to the new structure, TCU's Structure Committee made certain recommendations which were adopted by the TCU Executive Council subject to Convention approval. Importantly, where Boards and Divisions no longer exist, lodges of less than one hundred (100) members will be grouped within their respective current Units for the purposes of electing delegates-at-large, just as they were under their former Boards. To facilitate the election process for delegates-at-large, the International President shall assume the duties and responsibilities set forth in Article 6, Section 3 of the Constitution formerly performed by the General Chairman of a Board, and the International Secretary-Treasurer shall likewise assume the duties and responsibilities formerly performed by the General Secretary-Treasurer of a Board.

In addition, former Boards and Divisions which relinquished their charters no longer have General Chairmen to serve as their at-large delegate from the Board. Instead, the International Representatives who have jurisdiction over current Units will become at-large delegates to the Convention. They shall have one (1) vote, except they shall not vote for election of International Officers or for matters involving dues or assessments. In the event an International Representative is unable to attend the Convention, no alternate delegate will be selected to replace that person.

With those important caveats in mind, the following summarizes the key provisions of Article 6.

Delegate Representation

1. Each lodge or district of one hundred (100) or more members in good standing as of September 30, 2008 is entitled to one (1) delegate, who must be a member of the lodge or district he represents, with voting power based on one (1) vote for the first one hundred (100) members and one (1) additional vote for each additional one hundred (100) members or major fraction thereof.

2. Lodges or districts of less than one hundred (100) members in good standing as of September 30, 2008, are entitled to representation through delegates-at-

large representing the combined membership of all such lodges or districts under the jurisdiction of their respective Board or System Division on the basis of one (1) delegate for the first one hundred (100) or less members and one (1) additional delegate for each additional one hundred (100) members or major fraction thereof. The voting power of each delegate-at-large is one (1) vote.

3. Each Board or System Division having one hundred (100) or more members in good standing as of September 30, 2008, shall be entitled to one (1) additional delegate-at-large and alternate with one (1) vote. The General Chairman of each Board or each System Division shall be the delegate to the Grand Lodge Convention. This officer is to be nominated for and elected to the office of General Chairman-Delegate in accordance with the Protective Laws. Such Board or System Division shall also elect an Alternate delegate to the Convention in the same manner and at the same time the General Chairman-Delegate is elected. The alternate delegate shall only become the delegate to the Convention if a duly-elected General Chairman-Delegate, including those elected to interim vacancies, cannot for any reason attend the Grand Lodge Convention or is a delegate to the Convention by virtue of holding any other office in the Union. Such delegates or alternates shall not vote for election of International Officers.

Nomination & Election

Lodges or Districts of 100 or More Members – Article 6, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge provides the method for the election of delegates and alternates for lodges and districts of one hundred (100) or more members. The Financial Secretary-Treasurer of a Lodge or the President/Financial Secretary-Treasurer of a District or the General Secretary-Treasurer of a System Division shall furnish the names and addresses of the Chairmen of the Local Protective Committee-Delegate or District Chairman-Delegate or Alternate Delegate to the International President and International Secretary-Treasurer on a form to be furnished by the International Secretary-Treasurer and in accordance with his instructions.

Lodges or Districts of Less Than 100 Members – Article 6, Section 3 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge provides that members of each lodge or district of less than one hundred (100) members shall be entitled to participate in the election of delegates- (and alternates-) at-large representing the combined membership of all such lodges or districts under the jurisdiction of their Board or System Division.

The General Secretary-Treasurer shall notify the Local Chairman-Delegate or District Chairman-Delegate by mail with a copy to the President of the involved Local or District not later than January 25 immediately preceding the Convention that his name will appear on the Delegate-at-Large ballot. If the Local or District Chairman-Delegate does not desire to be elected as a Delegate-at-Large, he shall so notify the General Secretary-Treasurer in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of the letter. If there has been a change in the individual holding the position of Local or District Chairman-Delegate, the President of the Local or District must notify the General Secretary-Treasurer within ten (10) days from receipt of copy of the letter.

All delegates-at-large and alternates shall be elected by secret ballot on an official form furnished by the Grand Lodge with voting instructions appearing thereon. The names of qualified candidates, their lodge or district and location, and the number to be voted for shall be printed or otherwise indicated on the ballot by the General Secretary-Treasurer of the Board or System Division. No other information may be shown on the ballot. Names of candidates are to be listed on the ballot in the order of continuous membership, the member with longest membership to be listed first. All delegates-at-large and alternates-at-large must be elected on or before March 25, 2009.

Only those members who are in good standing, and shown on the rolls of the Grand Lodge as of September 30, 2008, are entitled to participate in the election of delegates-at-large and alternates. General Chairmen and General Secretary-Treasurers of Boards and System Divisions will be furnished with suggested rules and regulations for use in conducting elections for delegates-at-large and alternates-at-large.

Returns of elections for delegates-at-large must be handled by the General Secretary-Treasurer of each Board or System Division. Where the number of

nominations for delegates-at-large does not exceed the number of delegates to be elected under a Board or System Division as indicated by the International Secretary-Treasurer, the secret ballot election need not be conducted. Unopposed candidates shall be declared elected.

Ballots and all other records pertaining to the election of every delegate- (and alternate-) at-large must be retained by the General Secretary-Treasurer for not less than one (1) year, as required by Federal law and the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, unless called for by the International Secretary-Treasurer.

Qualifications

No member shall be eligible for nomination and election as delegate, delegate-at-large, or alternate unless he has been a member of the Union in good standing continuously for one (1) year immediately preceding the date of his nomination. In addition, he must have met his full dues obligation for the preceding year and must continue to do so for his term of office. He must actually be employed forty (40) hours or more in each calendar month in railroad, steamship, airline, express or other service, on a position that is fully covered by the working Rules Agreement, or exclusively employed by the Grand Lodge or any subordinate unit of the Union, and must have been so employed continuously for at least ninety (90) days immediately prior to the date of his nomination. No member may be nominated for delegate or alternate who is indebted to the Lodge/District, Board or System Division for more than the current month's dues or assessments.

Qualifications specified herein must be retained for term of office. (Employed continuously shall be construed as: (i) the receiving of any compensation or payment in lieu thereof from an employer subject to TCU agreements, the Grand Lodge or any subordinate unit of the Union; (ii) receiving benefits based on such service; (iii) a person who has a discharge grievance pending; (iv) temporary sickness or layoff not exceeding thirty (30) days for which compensation or benefits are not paid; (v) not working

because of a bona fide labor dispute; (vi) not working because of navigation conditions or seasonal operations.) The International President may make exceptions for members who are unable to meet these qualifications.

The one (1) year clause referred to in the preceding paragraph shall not apply to newly-organized Lodges/Districts, Boards and System Divisions during the first year of their existence; however, no member hereunder shall be eligible for nomination and election as delegate or alternate until sixty (60) days after admission into the Union.

Petitions & Resolutions

As provided in Article 8, Section 9 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, petitions and resolutions to be considered by the Convention may be submitted only by subordinate units, delegates and International Officers. Each petition or resolution shall be in writing, confined to one subject, and shall be filed with the International President on or before April 15, 2009.

Previous Conventions adopted a resolution that prohibits the acceptance of resolutions dealing with recommended changes in individual working rules agreements. Any such resolution(s) submitted will be referred to the appropriate International Representative for consideration and handling with the involved employer(s).

Proposed Amendments

Article 8, Section 10 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge provides that proposed amendments to the Constitution, Statutes and Protective Laws may be submitted only by subordinate units, delegates and International Officers. Each proposed amendment shall be in writing, confined to one subject, and shall be filed with the International President on or before April 15, 2009.

Hotel Accommodations and Registration

Delegates are required to stay at the designated Convention hotel and delegates are instructed to withhold making their own hotel reservations until further instructions concerning hotel accommodations, room rates and related matters are supplied to them by the International Secretary Treasurer's office.

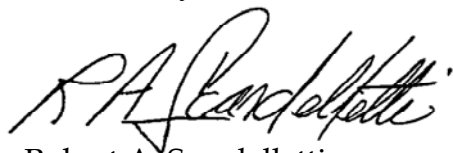
Credentials and other pertinent information will be furnished to delegates after they are elected and qualified.

Convention headquarters will be located in Paris Hotel, 3655 Las Vegas Boulevard, South, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109. Delegates are expected to arrive at Convention headquarters on Sunday, July 26, 2009 in order to register that day with the Credentials Committee. Some delegates may be required to arrive earlier if so advised by the International President.

Compensation

Article 6, Section 8(a) and (b) provides that the Grand Lodge will pay from its Convention Fund Account mileage, compensation for service and expense allowance to delegates going and returning from the meeting place of the Convention and while attending each regular session of the Convention. The 2009 Convention will determine the specific amount of payment considered reasonably adequate for these purposes.

In solidarity,



Robert A. Scardelletti
International President



Daniel Biggs
International Secretary-Treasurer