

## Other Benefits from UTU Membership

In these times when American industry is maximizing profits often at the expense of their workers, the advantages to belonging to a Union are clear. The Labor Department's Employment Cost Index which measures the changes in total compensation for civilian workers, indicates that belonging to a strong union is a distinct advantage.

Total compensation for union workers in the private sector increased 3%, compared to 2.8% for non-union workers. Last year union workers saw an increase in benefits of 3.6%, compared with only 2.4% for non-union workers.

But looking at compensation alone is like looking at just part of the picture. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the real advantage is evident when comparing actual wage and benefit levels of non-union and that of union workers in the transportation industry, which includes both rail and bus. Union workers earn about 24% more than non-represented employees.

In the insurance area, employers pay union members' insurance benefits of \$2.54 per hour, compared with 98¢ per hour for non-union workers.

The United Transportation Union has long recognized that it must aggressively work to keep the wages and benefits earned by its members the highest in the transportation industry. Your dues, while representing only about 2 hours of work a month, continue to make that possible.

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# United Transportation Union

*Your Dues and Why They Are  
Important*



## WHY ARE DUES IMPORTANT?

A member of one of the most progressive labor organizations in the United States, United Transportation Union members enjoy the benefits of many years of successful national collective bargaining negotiations. UTTU members enjoy some of the most progressive programs and services in organized labor and unmatched in the transportation trades. These benefits of UTTU membership include:

- Excellent Wages
- Seniority Rights
- Health & Welfare Benefits
- Paid Vacations and Holidays
- Experienced Representation
- Legislative Strength

In addition to the quality benefits and programs available to each member and all their family members, General Committees of Adjustment, Legislative Departments and UTTU Local Officers work hard to see that your contracts are not violated, wages are protected and working conditions are not jeopardized.

However, it costs money to maintain these advantages of UTTU membership. Since the UTTU was formed in 1969, a continuing goal of the leadership has been to keep the dues contributions by members as low as possible. With only seven dues increases at the International level since UTTU was formed, the leadership is taking care of the members' interest.

## Where Do Your Dues Dollars Go?

Sometimes you might hear a co-worker complain that he/she is paying out a lot each month to the UTTU for membership. Actually, there are several different categories in which a member might contribute—only a few are dues, the rest voluntary.

There are four different levels of dues contributions:

**International Dues**—This is the only part of your dues which supports the entire UTTU organization. Currently, each member pays \$15.50 per month. Of this amount, 25¢ goes to the public relations fund, 75¢ for the Strike fund, \$1.00 for the Convention Fund and \$1.00 goes to the Maintenance of Membership Fund. The remaining amount pays for offices in Cleveland, Washington and Ottawa; full time counsel in both countries; salaries of officers and staff; and all operating expenses. (For our Canadian sisters/brothers, an additional \$2.00 is collected which goes into the Canadian Special Fund for projects in Canada.)

**General Committee of Adjustment Dues**—This dues category is established by the General Committee of Adjustment to generate and take care of members' interests on the property. The dues in this category differs from property-to-property but averages nationally about \$25.00 per month. This rate is set by the Local Chairpersons who are members of the General Committee of Adjustment.

**Legislative Dues**—This amount goes to operate the State Legislative Board in your state. The amount is set by the local legislative

representatives and who are members of the Legislative Board. The average contribution per member nationally is about \$9.00 per month. This legislative fund protects you on the state level by promoting policy and programs in regard to safety, sanitation and other job related problems.

**Local Dues**—Local dues are separated into two categories: Local dues and Local Committee of Adjustment dues. Averaging around \$7.00 and \$9.00 per month respectively, these dues support the costs of both providing representation at the local level and the costs of operating the Local, i.e., wages of the officers, rent, supplies, and any other appropriate expenses. The level of dues in each of these categories are set by a vote of the membership of the Local and Local Committee of Adjustment.

## Use of Dues

