



HEADWAY

A PUBLICATION OF THE TRANSIT MANAGERIAL BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2019

WEB: WWW.MTATMBA.ORG • E-MAIL: MTATMBA@AOL.COM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY MICHAEL J. LANDI

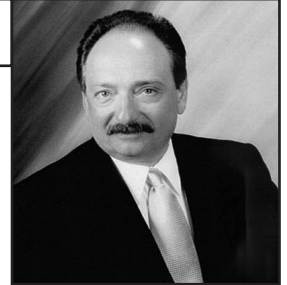
The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) on June 27, 2018, ruled in a 5/4 decision on an Illinois case "Janus vs American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) in which the court ruled that a "labor union cannot take dues from a non-member employee if that employee did not elect to join. The court ruled that it is a violation of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution." Joining a union is a personal decision. As a non-union employee, you would still be entitled to the same benefits as a union member and would receive whatever raises and benefits the union members would get. However, the union would not be obligated to represent any non-members in any disciplinary proceedings. The TMBA, which is **NOT** a labor union, would and will, represent all of its members in any disciplinary proceedings and all for less in dues than any other union charges. The TMBA still charges \$20.00 per month whereas the other union, as I understand it, is charging a lot more. So, if you feel you're paying you salary adjustment increase back to the other union in dues, then maybe it's time to reconsider your options and the TMBA.

During the past year we have revised our By-Laws regarding membership. We have opened our membership into the TMBA to all employees of the MTA who do not wish to belong to, or who are not eligible for collective bargaining representation under state and local law and to those retired or otherwise separated from such service. If you know of anyone who does not want to belong to a labor union and wishes to belong to an organization to handle their job-related needs, then have them contact us at mtatmba.org for more information and an application.

For our active members, we have not received any information regarding the 2019 salary adjustments. Everything hinges on the outcome of the overtime abuse investigation along with labor negotiations and the reorganization of the MTA.

Now that tax season is rapidly approaching. According to the accounting firm of KVLMS, there are major changes for the 2018 through the 2025 Tax year. The Tax Cuts and Job Acts have made major changes for 2018. Please read the attached insert titled "TAX UPDATE." Also, in the September 27th issue of the Chief/Leader, there was an article by Mr. Barry Lisak titled "TAX STRATEGIES" where he advises to beware of Income-Tax Scams. Also, NYCERS issued a statement for "Earning Limitation for Service Retirees and Disability Retirees." We have enclosed these articles for your information.

We strongly advise that you talk to an accredited tax account/advisor prior to tax season.



Starting in September 2019, retirees will have seen an increase in their gross monthly pension benefit. The increase is due to the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) of 1.0.

If you know of anyone retiring, or being promoted, or articles which may be of interest to the membership please send the information to TMBA, P.O. Box 570087, Whitestone, NY, 11357-0087 and we will place their names and articles in the newsletter.

At our June General Membership meeting, we were pleased to have with us Mr. Joel C. Andrews, Vice President, Equal Employment Opportunity & Diversity. Mr. Andrews gave an enlightened view of the workings of EEO. We thank him for a most interesting presentation. Anyone wishing to contact the Office of EEO call 1-(718)-694-1730. At our September meeting, we had Griselda Cespedes, VP and Chief Engineer of Disputes, Station Program Services CPM. She gave an informative presentation into her area of responsibility. For our December 5th meeting, we have scheduled Mr. Kenneth Tobin, Acting Vice President. MTA Security as our guest speaker.

As a benevolent association, we try to have a guest speaker and topics which may be of interest to the membership. We would like to hear from you any suggestions you may have on future speakers and topics which you think would be of interest. Please send your suggestions to TMBA, PO Box 570087, Whitestone, NY, 11357-0087.

Thanks to Allen Rabinowitz, our web site has a "Jobs Link" page where open Federal, State, and City positions are listed. Members can pass this information along to their children or family and friends who may be looking for a career in public service. Go to WWW.MTATMBA.ORG and click on the JOBS Link.

Remember, when you need to speak to a member of the Executive Board, I suggest that if you're an operational manager from the Department of Buses call Carlo Pacheco at (718)-614-8042, if you're an operational manager from the Department of Subways, call Frank DeSimone at (917)-859-6843 and if you're an administrative manager call Debbie Martinez at (917)-881-2606 for assistance.

(continued on reverse)

Congratulations to Darryl Irick and Griselda Cespedes on their retirements. We wish Darryl and Griselda a long, healthy, and prosperous retirement.

Congratulations to Frank DeSimone and his family on the birth of their twin great grandchildren. We send the DeSimone family our best wishes.

Congratulations to Ramon Paez on the birth of his first grandson. We send the Paez family our best wishes.

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of the following-

Hubert P. Williams, Brother of Eugene Williams, Asst. General Manager, Department of Buses.

John (J.J.) Johnson, Retired Chief Transportation Officer, Department of Subways.

Monty Ward, Retired General Superintendent, Department of Subways.

Joseph Penna, Retired Superintendent, Material Distribution.

Charles (Charlie) Adams, General Superintendent, Division of Car Equipment.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of their families.

Our honorees for this year's award dinner, which was held on Friday, November 8th at Riccardo's was Griselda Cespedes, VP C.P.M., Edward Driscoll, Deputy General Manager, Department of Buses. Also honored was Michael T. Calabro, General Superintendent, Department of Buses, Retired. Mike is one of the Founding Fathers of the TMBA.

Scholarship Winners - We congratulate the following winners of this year's Scholarship Awards.

First Place- Christopher Matzer

Second Place- Thomas Coor

Third Place- Riley Elizabeth Lowe

I want to congratulate all of the applicants who submitted applications on their scholastic achievements. Although only three applicants are selected those of you who were not selected are a credit to yourselves and your parents. You are to be commended on your hard work.

RETIRES CORNER

Retirees Dues are due by the end of September for 2020. If you haven't paid your dues, we will have to remove your name from our mailing list and this will be the last newsletter you will receive. Dues for retirees are \$35 a year. You can still mail dues to: TMBA, P.O. Box 570087, Whitestone, NY, 11357-0087.

Transit Managerial Benevolent Association

Cordially Invites You to Attend Our General Membership Meeting

Thursday, December 5, 2019 at Ricardo's by the Bridge

Guest Speaker:

Kenneth Tobin, Acting Vice President, MTA Security

21-01 24th Avenue, Astoria, N.Y. 11102, Tel. (718) 721-7777

(BQE-GCP/Triboro Bridge, Exit Hoyt Ave, to 21st St, Right to 24th Ave)

Dinner will be served at 5:45 P.M. meeting to follow

Please RSVP, ASAP: Email: MTATMBA@aol.com

Call: Mike Landi (917) 859-6842, Carlos Pacheco (718) 614-8042, Richard Di Puma (917) 859-6844, Ramon Paez (917) 763-1709, Frank De Simone (917) 859-6843, or Debra Martinez (917) 881-2606

Visit our Web Site: www.mtatmba.org



Executive Board

Richard Di Puma <i>Treasurer</i>	Michael J. Landi <i>President</i>
Ramon Paez <i>Secretary</i>	Carlos A. Pacheco <i>Vice President, Buses</i>
Michael Calabro <i>Retiree Chairman</i>	Frank DeSimone <i>Vice President, Subways</i>
Stuart Salles, Esquire	Debra Martinez <i>Vice President, Admin.</i>

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