

February 19, 2007

**ARASA NOTES #107**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The New Year brings us hope as we have new leadership in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. I have corresponded with Amtrak's new President, Alex Kummant, and he has agreed to meet with me in the near future. We welcome the opportunity to discuss issues of mutual concern.

We just completed a Leadership Workshop in Lorton, Virginia, for ARASA supervisors. The focus was on leadership skills, safety and customer service. It was a very positive meeting and illustrated the positives of labor and management working together. Many thanks to Superintendent Joe Wall and his Southern Division staff for their assistance and to Eastern DC Larry Vollten for his help in preparing and presenting the workshop. We also thank International Rep Joe Derillo, Jr. for his support and guidance.

Regarding the (25) Manager, Service Quality positions at various locations around the country, we continue multiple actions on regarding these jobs and TCU is providing full assistance in the fight to retain ARASA positions. Our claim will soon go to a Public Law Board for review, and we are optimistic they will agree that the work these managers are doing is the same that ARASA Supervisors have performed since the mid- 1970's.

We bid a fond farewell to Brother Harry Kabel, who is off to enjoy retirement. We will miss his quick wit, kind words and those great sketches that captured so many faces of Amtrak. We thank him for his many years of service to ARASA and wish him and his family all the best!

Meanwhile, my advice is simply to do the best job you can each day. We recognize that these are very trying times for all of us; we will continue our efforts to keep ARASA Supervisors in a viable role at Amtrak. Meanwhile, keep the faith.

In solidarity,

Jay N. Fountain  
President and General Chairman  
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