

# Anonymous Websites

## **Scribbled graffiti, stickers, anti-ACRE website from within our own ranks**

As ACRE members you have undoubtedly come in contact with the scribbled graffiti and stickers that have defaced Metro-North equipment promoting an anti-ACRE web site. The site, financed by our former internationals and administered by a few dissidents within our own ranks, continues to promote the same tired old allegations that have been thoroughly discredited by the Department of Labor, the Justice Department and the National Mediation Board.

By now, none of the activities of our former internationals come as much of a surprise to any of us. The internationals have proven time and time again that they don't understand they are responsible for their own representational failures. What is troubling however is the way our former internationals have taken advantage of our co-workers by getting them to participate in a web site based on discredited accusations.

Contributors to the site like engineers Jim Ekberg and Tom Gleason have been writing editorial articles attacking ACRE. This is the second campaign that Brother Ekberg has participated in against the interests of ACRE while Mr. Gleason has been campaigning against ACRE since its inception. Mr. Ekberg's first campaign was his appearance in a video produced by the AFL-CIO attacking ACRE during the signalmen representation vote which

resulted in an ACRE landslide victory. ACRE officers who have been accused of unimaginable misdeeds by Mr. Ekberg have still managed to move Brother Ekberg into August vacation slots for the past several years. While Mr. Ekberg openly campaigns against the interests of ACRE and spreads unsubstantiated lies against its officers, Local Division 9 has retaliated by honoring Mr. Ekberg's August vacation requests and recognizing his rights as an ACRE member.

The editorial articles presented by engineers Jim Ekberg and Tom Gleason have been written as though the authors possess some inside information the rest of us have somehow missed. While it's sometimes fun to play pretend, these articles are not only lacking inside information, the only outside information they have is already catalogued in the public record. The information is also very selectively presented. If their goal is ultimately to return control of our membership to the UTU and BLET they should be keeping their readers informed on their recent activities (see next article).

It's apparent that it is more fun for Jim and Tom to accuse innocent people of imagined wrongdoing than to report on the illegal activities of the groups financing their activities. These individuals could have come to any of the open forums held to discuss the contract ratification and voiced their opinions but, as usual, they choose to sit on the sidelines and hide in the shadows casting unsubstantiated allegations.

ACRE officers are more than willing to set up an open debate and discussion with Mr. Ekberg and Mr. Gleason conducted under the eyes of the membership. They should consider this to be an open invitation to take us up on the offer.

As for the site itself, ACRE has done a little investigating and has discovered that the anonymous site is registered to a person who does not exist with a Philadelphia address that does not exist. In tracing the line by line code sources that expose the Internet addresses of the individuals posting on the website, we have found a few familiar names. The sponsors apparently are unaware that a record exists within the host company, Easy CGI of Nyack, New York, that documents and records all the activities associated with the site. These individuals, representing both the UTU and former BLE, seem to have found a common issue they both are willing to put their time and resources behind, attacking ACRE. Just so our former internationals know how we feel, ACRE applauds whatever break they have taken from working to destroy each others crafts and the subsequent damage it has done to the lives of their individual members. For our part, ACRE rests assured that our former internationals will be as unsuccessful in this strategy as they have been in every other strategy they have employed.

We are documenting all the information we receive and will keep you posted as this interesting story progresses. Finally, we would like to thank CGI of Nyack for their help during our investigation. ▲