

Dear Jeff Aveis:

The response you posted on the ACRE message board must be your atonement for committing the sin of expressing a modicum of remorse and forwarding an apology to Sam Nasca. The content of your response suggests you had ample assistance in preparing the text. I find it extremely difficult to believe that anyone who cannot write his own letters would be involved in an audit of any type. But if you were, there are some details you missed. I'll provide them in an outline form:

1. When I assumed office on January 1, 1988, I declined accepting my salary, and did refuse any salary for several months.
  2. I did accept my salary after I marked off to attend several conferences or seminars and suffered lost earnings and did not request compensation from the Local.
  3. I was compensated for lost earnings several times over the next six years for lost earnings for attending conferences at direction of the Local.
  4. I donated my November 1988 salary to the Metro North United Way Campaign on behalf of the Local.
  5. If you had completed a thorough audit, you would have found a letter of gratitude and appreciation from the Director of the Sloan Kettering Children's Ward. All donations made to the children's ward on behalf of Local 77 came from my Local salary.
  6. Usually when I made personal calls from the office, I used a calling card. If I did not, I requested from the GCA secretary, Cathy Sullivan, an accounting of my calls, and I would then issue a check to the GCA for the cost of my calls. I still have the canceled checks.
  7. After Tony was elected General Chairman, I asked Cathy for a final bill. For whatever reason, Mrs. Sullivan neglected to provide me with a bill, I offered an approximate sum, and she said not to worry, it wasn't all that much. My average bill was \$30.00.
  8. After the new administration conducted their audit I heard through channels that I was accused of having an outstanding phone bill of \$300.00. Now it is \$900.00, inflation? During your audit, no one approached me and inquired if I had in fact made these calls, or attempted to sort out which may be mine. I spoke with Paul Holland and explained the details of the matter. Paul verified he had seen entries of my payments in the records of personal phone calls. He said that there was a gap. Yes, I said there was, after I requested a final tally. I informed Paul that if I continued to hear any more of this nonsense, I would insist on a trial under provisions of Article 74 of the UTU Constitution and have the records open for public scrutiny. I also said if the
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amount for months I did not accept a salary or compensation for lost earnings was tallied, I would have been owed money. I have not heard anything further on the subject until now. Produce the records Jack, err I mean Jeff, I'm forgetting who I'm writing, the syntax is so similar. I would appreciate it if you produced these records and made my case.

9. If Local 77 had funds missing or misspent, the UTU International would have performed an audit if requested. This did not happen. During this "audit" I spoke with the GS & T's office in Cleveland and asked a rhetorical question concerning reimbursement for phone calls. The answer, the issue is a local matter. If you felt that strongly, you should have contacted me then, I received no call. The funds under my control, the Local and LCA funds, always maintained a surplus. As for the Trainmen's Relief Fund, I was notified of its existence the same as the other members. You know this already. If you were actually involved in the audit, to the degree you state, you would be cognizant of the fact my name never appeared anywhere in association of connection with this surreptitious account. Again, ACRE has the records in their possession, produce them for review.

10. Jeff you and Jack are confused concerning the date of certain events. I left office on December 31, 1993. The contract offer you claim I supported was put on the property in March or April of 1994. I did field numerous questions about the Zero, one, not a "contract filled with Zeros". Other questions concerned the process and why Jim Phelan put out the contract offer. You should understand your series of events better. The I'll acquaint you with some details. A month after we signed a contract for 5, 5, and 5 percent pay raises for a three-year agreement in January 1991, the LIRR signed for 5, 5, and 0 in a 30-month deal. They were able to sign for expedited arbitration in that agreement, for negotiating purposes on their next contract that gave them the ability to seek self-help as soon as they reached impasse with the Carrier. They went on strike in July 1994 for two weeks. That is when the Zero disappeared from the contract offer. Phelan signed the same deal for expedited arbitration in late 1994. This allowed Tony the ability to perform his selective strikes in the summer of 1995, which led to a P.E.B. to settle outstanding issues with that contract.

It is evident to me, and I'm sure to many ACRE members that Jack Gaines assisted you with your letter. Just as Jack provided incorrect details in the letter to Sam Nasca, he has repeated his mistakes in your response to me. The ACRE policy is not to address issues, answer questions, or provide proof of allegations. ACRE does indulge in prevarication and mendacity.

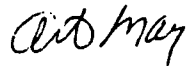
To close my letter, I thought it appropriate to furnish some testimonials from ACRE officers concerning my ability as a union officer. Naturally these are old statements and most of these officers would now be disingenuous and deny ever making these statements. In 1990 when I was seeking reelection, Tony Bottalico was fond of stating, "A vote for Art May is a vote for Local 77". In early 1993 after I announced my intention not to seek reelection, Andy Steimle said "Art, you have to run, no one does it like you do". Ralph Sanzari said to me, I forget the time

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frame, "I always said you did your job". Lloyd Fischbeck acknowledged my ability in a private conversation shortly before I left office. The best is saved for last. After your problems with a severe passenger complaint were handled by Jim Phelan and Ken Mackey, I believe in 1991 or 1992, you were my trainman in 753. You continually extolled the virtues of Phelan, the entire administration, and myself.

Jeff and Jack, articulate idiot is an oxymoron.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Art May".

Art May

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