

John O'Rourke
Conductor
MTA Metro North Railroad

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Dear Metro North Coworker:

I have learned that the ACRE organization will be in search of a dues increase at the February meeting (02/01/06). Their claim is that there has not been a dues increase in twelve (12) years

The fact is that on the formation of ACRE, five years ago, there was a twenty dollars per man, per month that was no longer being sent to the international. On the formation of ACRE, during the A-Card drive the people who represented us as UTU, whom are most of the same people whom represent us now as ACRE, led us to believe that we were going to receive a five dollar reduction in our monthly dues. That was one of the many false promises from these people. These people have shown us that they have no loyalty to any one but themselves. They have turned on the internationals for reason of money, now they have turned on you the paying member.

Where does all this money go? "If" the cost of operation has risen, then the ACRE officers should look at, cost of operation, salary structure, and expenses, Because when you look at how small our increases have been, compared to the cost of inflation you will realize something is wrong.

One month \$20.00

One year \$240.00

Eight hundred members for one year \$192,000.00,

This is the money that ACRE claimed they were going to save by not sending it to the international

Actual dues \$68.50 per month per member

Multiplied by 12 months = \$822.00 per year

Multiplied 800 members = \$657,600 per year,

now say it nice and slow, SIX, HUNDRED, FIFTY, SEVEN, THOUSAND, DOLLARS. now say it again and question where does all this money go.

I know it is very difficult to make the monthly meetings (even one for fact) for the majority of the members, please see my letter to Bottalico on the MTACRE web site www.mtacre.com in the editorial section 06/05, in this day of age we must ask, why is this not done by internet or even the CMS system, we have already seen ACRE has access to this, how about a telephone voting system since the people of ACRE have also laid claim that they are the most liberal union ever. I encourage every one who can make it to the meeting to attend, vote it down, Sign and submit an A-Card, it is time for answers.

Sincerely
John O'Rourke