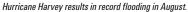
# atTRACKtions







Club 53 President Aaron Tinnell transports Plum Grove, Texas, volunteer firefighters.

#### **Tinnell Answers Call to Help**

Despite an unprecedented amount of rain, Club 53 President Aaron Tinnell's Plum Grove, Texas, home stayed "dry as a bone" following Hurricane Harvey. Those who watched the news the last week of August, however, know others were not so lucky.

With railroad operations shut down at central Houston's Englewood Yard, where he reports for work, Tinnell did what many local fishermen did — turned his boat into a rescue craft. Local fire and police departments put out calls for assistance from anyone who was able.

"So many people were hollering on social media that they needed help," he said. "I

couldn't just sit around — I wanted to help."

For four days, Tinnell navigated floodwaters in Plum Grove and nearby Kingwood, gathered as many stranded people into his boat as he safely could, then "put life jackets on them and told them to hang on." One location was a church that had served as a shelter until it, too, fell victim to the rising waters.

"The current was just unbelievable," he said. "I saw the fear on the kids' faces who had to go through this. All I could do was put a jacket on them and tell them it'd be OK. It was terrifying, but I couldn't let my fear get in the way; besides, who else was

going to do it? Seeing them made me get the job done."

Tinnell continued to help until his aid was no longer needed; he returned to his locomotive engineer duties about a week following the hurricane. Since then, whenever the opportunity arises, he reminds his co-workers about the importance of contributing to the UPEC Friend to Friend Network.

"I'm trying to get everyone on board," he said. "Five, 10 bucks — every little bit helps."

And, as Hurricane Harvey proved, he added, "You never know when you'll need it yourself."

#### From the Chairman

The Executive Committee met in Salt Lake City Oct. 23-26. I stayed afterward to meet with members of the service unit to discuss next year's convention and participation. I also set some time aside to meet with employees of the service unit to explain UPEC. My goal is to reignite personal connection with employees and current service unit staff.

A lot has been going on with adopt-a-club. Executive Committee members are contacting their adopted clubs with new ideas to keep them on their toes and getting information from the clubs each month to cross-reference when they turn in their final year-to-date report.

I'm looking forward to following our motto, "Let's Turn This Around," to boost membership and let people know we're out here. The UPEC executive team is exploring ways to expand our social media presence, and the existing UPEC webpage will be updated

soon. We also plan to work with our Public Affairs people across the system in case they need any assistance from us. I'm mailing letters to the superintendents that will introduce them to the local club presidents, letting the superintendents know that we're available to help with safety meals and other activities. These are just a few things I have in mind.

Let me know if you have any ideas of things we can try to

"Turn This Around" or if you need anything from me.



Bob Moore, UPEC chairman

-Bob

#### Texans Help One Another

Fort Worth, Texas, Locomotive Shop employees organized meals on every shift to help their co-workers to the south impacted by Hurricane Harvey. The \$2,427 they raised was donated to the UPEC Friend to Friend Network.

Managers and Total Safety Culture facilitators helped by cooking and cleaning. Machinist Cody Mabry coordinated with Texas Chili Company to provide hot dogs and chili.

Union Pacific also organized a Disaster Relief Matching Gifts Program for Hurricane Harvey. Starting Aug. 29, UP matched employee contributions, dollarfor-dollar, to the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and others.

UP also matched UPEC Friend to Friend Network one-time contributions through Sept. 30, as well as September payroll deductions, dollar for dollar, up to \$100,000. Lastly, the company donated \$100,000 to the American Red Cross and \$50,000 to Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner's relief fund.

### Handmade Quilt Helps Raise Funds

Kansas City Carman Mike DeLeersnyder was once on the receiving end of a UPEC Friend to Friend Network check. This year, in the months leading up to his retirement, he and his wife, Karen,



Carman Michael DeLeersnyder and his wife, Karen, raise funds for UPEC Friend to Friend Network during the Sept. 23 Kansas City Terminal/Locomotive Facility family day.



Karen DeLeersnyder crafted the quilt from her husband's old UP T-shirts.

decided to pay it forward.

Karen handcrafted a quilt from several of DeLeersnyder's Union Pacific T-shirts and a railroad-track-patterned fabric she found in Florida. After about 40 hours of work, she finished the quilt this past spring.

In the weeks leading up to the Sept. 23 Kansas City Terminal/Locomotive Facility family day, employees could purchase drawing tickets for \$1, with proceeds going to UPEC Friend to Friend. By the time the winning drawing was made that day, \$2,034 was raised — Edwin Harbeston, assistant track foreman, was the winner.

This was not the first time Friend to Friend benefited from Karen's handiwork — she made a similar quilt that raised more than \$1,500 a few years ago.

"You never know when you may need a little extra cash," DeLeersnyder said. "It's my way of giving back to my fellow employees to help them when they're in need."

DeLeersnyder retired Oct. 31 following a 40-year career. He most recently served as an AAR write-up man.







After driving from Northern California to Houston, Club 86's Raj Randhawa and others purchase a multitude of supplies for Hurricane Harvey victims.

#### **Generosity Shown to Assist Flood Victims**

In the wake of Hurricane Harvey's devastation, people near and far traveled to Houston to lend a helping hand in whatever way they could. Count Club 86's Raj Randhawa among them.

He, his brother and their friends departed Northern California Sept. 13 and drove 33 hours to America's fourth-largest city, only stopping for fuel. The four represented Seva, an independent, nonprofit organization named for the Punjabi word for "selfless service," whose mission is to help underserved communities. They followed another group of Seva volunteers that had traveled there soon after the hurricane hit. From them, Randhawa and his companions received contact information for several organizations that also were helping parties in need.

For the next three days, their mission was to assess what Harvey's victims needed — bottled water, school supplies, cleaners,

diapers — and then purchase and deliver them. "We learned in real time what people needed," he said.

Items were purchased using funds solicited by Seva members via social media; Randhawa also asked his Roseville Locomotive Shop co-workers during shift turnovers to help, and many responded.

Randhawa said he will long remember his experiences in Texas. As of mid-September, many Houstonians were still living in tents or trailers in their front lawns as their houses could not be safely occupied — the damp smell still filled the air, he said. Seva volunteers also took a break from their deliveries to feed a group of homeless people who were living underneath a downtown overpass.

He recalled a visit to a church; the pastor thanked the volunteers for delivering supplies, then told Randhawa he wanted to show him something. Behind the church were two enormous ponds — excavation holes that had filled up with water. If it were not for those two unintended reservoirs, the church likely would have succumbed to the floodwaters.

"I think everything happens for a reason," Randhawa said.

On the 17th, having tallied 5,300 miles on the odometer, Randhawa and his companions returned home to California.

Seva was created about five years ago when Randhawa and others came together to serve sandwiches to homeless people in their neighborhood. Each person pitched in \$5 for supplies. Through social media and word of mouth, their efforts grew. The organization continues to serve those meals every Thursday while helping others in need, both near and far. In October, they distributed supplies to California wildfire victims.

To learn more about Seva, visit www.sevaselflessservice.org.

#### Join UPEC!

This edition features the culmination of Union Pacific Employee Clubs' chief purpose: to positively impact their communities while building camaraderie among co-workers, both past and present.

Through activities such as feeding the homeless, sorting toys for the Salvation Army, and collecting backpacks and shoes for low-income families, clubs give to Union Pacific communities. They also coordinate social outings such as attending concerts and dinners.

During the past decade, clubs' membership has declined at some

locations, particularly among working railroaders. In the coming year, UPEC leaders aim to reignite membership and continue the tradition that began in 1924 in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Membership is open to retired and current employees, and their spouses. Annual membership costs vary from \$2 to \$5 and help fund club activities

To learn more about your local employee club — or for more information on reactivating a club — visit www.up.com/employee/upec.



Yardmaster Tony Marquez, left, and UPEC Chairman Bob Moore discuss safety around the rails with pedestrians.



From left, Yardmaster Tony Marquez, University Hospital Emergency Director Dawn Belscamper, Locomotive Engineer Mike Byars, Conductor Gary Hall, Total Safety Culture Coordinator John Hughes, UPEC Chairman Bob Moore and Manager-Public Safety Buck Russel advocate for pedestrian and crossing safety Oct. 4 at San Antonio's James Russell Lowell Middle School

#### International Walk to School Day

In collaboration with Safe Kids San Antonio, Vision Zero and Union Pacific, Club 66 members and other volunteers participated Oct. 4 in International Walk to School Day.

Organized by the Partnership for a Walkable America, Walk to School Day began in 1997 to raise awareness for the need for walkable communities. In 2000, the event became international when the United Kingdom and Canada also participated.

Members of Club 66, the Black Employee Network (BEN),

Latino Employee Network (LEN), Total Safety Culture representatives and Operating Department employees gathered at James Russell Lowell Middle School, which is situated between UP's Del Rio and Laredo Subdivisions. They met with students and their parents — more than 400 people total — at designated crosswalks to remind them of the importance of pedestrian and railroad safety, and distributed Safe Kids tips sheets, stickers and other items.

#### **San Antonio Continues Salvation Army Support**

Club 66 members enjoyed the San Antonio Salvation Army's annual luncheon earlier this year.

San Antonio Spurs legend David Robinson, a longtime contributor to the Salvation Army, spoke about the importance of the organization's work in the community.

The event brought together community leaders and caring individuals who want to improve the lives of area men, women, and children who are struggling to maintain their homes or who have become homeless.

Those individuals include members of Club 66, who volunteer at the food pantry

distributing meals to the needy.

"It's not just one age category; it's everybody," said Charlotte Featherling, who has volunteered with the Salvation Army for more than five years. "They live day to day not knowing if they're going to have food tomorrow. The Salvation Army tries to have food for everybody they possibly can."

Buck Russel, manager-public safety and Club 66 member, thanked Director-Public Affairs Ivan Jaime for sponsoring the group's table.

"Ivan knew about what we do and graciously donated for the group to attend that event," he said.



Charlotte Featherling meets San Antonio Spurs legend and hall-offamer David Robinson.

### Hinkle Couple Benefit from UPEC Friend to Friend

For several years, Brian and Michell Lowrance not only shared a home — they shared a job title. The two worked together as mechanical service operators at the Hinkle, Oregon, Locomotive Facility until Brian could no longer work because of his health.

Brian has been on dialysis since January, and was placed on the active transplant list for a kidney and pancreas in July. When the organs become available — the phone could ring day or night, Michell said — they have 10 hours to



Brian Lowrance, former Hinkle, Ore., mechanical service operator, right, brings Shop Director Russell Lowe a barbecue dinner. Lowrance and his wife, Michell, prepared meals to help raise funds for his medical expenses. The couple also has received UPEC Friend to Friend Network assistance.

get to Seattle. Following an eight-hour surgery, Brian will remain hospitalized for only a week, but will need to remain in Seattle for three months while he undergoes regular checkups.

With help from her Hinkle co-workers, Michell has sold barbecue dinners — featuring meat smoked by Brian himself — and conducted a garage sale to help cover living and travel expenses while Brian recovers in Seattle. The couple also received a check from the UPEC Friend to Friend Network, which Michell said went toward their health care payments.

"If we hadn't received that check, I don't know how we could've kept everything going," she said.



From left, DeSoto, Mo., Car Shop Director Adam Fisher, Manager-Supply Operations Rick Pica, Bob Cover and Material Supervisor Wayne Bradley participate in DeSoto's annual golf tournament, which raised money for the IJPFC Friend to Friend Network

## **DeSoto Takes to the Greens for a Good Cause**

The DeSoto, Missouri, Car Shop's annual golf tournament was again a success in 2017.

Eighteen teams competed in the August four-person scramble, which raised funds for the UPEC Friend to Friend Network and a holiday adopt-a-family project. The tourney included closest-to-pin and longest drive prizes. A drawing for prizes including St. Louis Cardinals tickets also raised money.

"It's a really good time and a lot of fun, and it's for a good cause," said Deb Denton, Total Safety Culture facilitator, who said an average of one DeSoto employee per month benefits from UPEC Friend to Friend.

#### **Burk Becomes Club 54 President**

This summer, Johnny Burk was elected president of Club 54, North Little Rock, Arkansas. His wife, Robin, will serve as secretary.

"I want to be at every event and help anybody anyway I can," the Jenks Locomotive Shop machinist said.

The Kountze, Texas, native and first-generation railroader will serve a one-year term. He is tasked with leading monthly meetings, among other duties.

Burk feels equipped to take the reins with more than a decade of volunteer experience and time as a board member.

"Being around over the years and seeing everything we do prepared me," he said. "We do a lot of good for people."

Burk does not want to "make any waves." He seeks to maintain the course the club had taken prior to his election.



Johnny Burk, machinist, serves as Club 54 president.



#### **Helping After Harvey**

Natural disasters such as Hurricane Harvey not only affect railroad operations — they change the lives of railroaders and their loved ones. They also show the importance of contributing to the UPEC Friend to Friend Network.

As of Oct. 24, the families of more than 500 employees in Texas and Louisiana had received Friend to Friend assistance.

Your contribution, be it through one-time or monthly payroll deductions, makes a difference.

For more information, visit www.up.com/employee/upec/friends/index.htm.

Welcome to the Union Pacific Employee Clubs/Friend to Friend Network Newsletter, highlighting employee club members and club activities. This newsletter will be published quarterly. Please contact Matt, newsletter editor, and let him know about local and national club activities, community involvement, charitable giving and anything else you would like to see in your newsletter. This newsletter is for you and you should be highlighted! Whatever pictures you can send via email or postal mail would be greatly appreciated. News Link, 2201 Winthrop Rd., Lincoln, NE 68502-4158, 402-4756397, fax 402-475-6398, or email matt@newslink.com. By submitting photos, you state that you are the sole author of the photograph and control all rights for its use. Any employee who submits a photo retains all rights to the photo. By submission, you give Corporate Relations a perpetual license to use your photo and to sub-license the same for use by third parties. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition of the newsletter, including but not limited to Deb Denton, Charlotte Featherling, Raj Randhawa, Buck Russel, Kay Steinbeck, Aaron Tinnell and Richard Zietlow.

#### North Platte's Past Presidents Pinned



During Club 8's August meeting, Lynn Steinbeck presented former leaders of the North Platte, Nebraska, group with past presidents' pins. Steinbeck has since joined their ranks; Mick Jesse reassumed the presidency. From left are Jesse, Bob Sparks, Rod Ury, Steinbeck, Twila Brynoff, Larry Steele, DeLoyt Young and Pennie Mattke.

#### A Utah Hoedown!

Next August, Union Pacific Employee Club members will meet not far from where the Central Pacific met the Union Pacific May 10, 1869. The Sheraton Salt Lake City will serve as host of the 94th annual convention Aug. 7-10, 2018.

Set against the Wasatch Range, Salt Lake City offers many activities, including Temple Square, the Gateway — home to UP's historic depot — and the International Peace Gardens.

Stay tuned for more information, including Amtrak details. And if you plan to travel to Utah, don't forget to bring your finest hat and spurs — this year's theme night is the "Wild West!"





Greg Sorenson, left, presents Tony Rosenberry his check.



Club 77, Adams, Wis., hosts a Sept. 9 brat fry. From left are members Richard Zietlow, Kim Ritchhart, Greg Sorenson, Rita Zietlow, Bobby Hilson, Terri Camps and Roberta Ritchhart.

#### **Adams Fries Brats for Account Funds**

Club 77 held its annual brat fry and cash raffle Sept. 9 in Adams, Wis. Richard Zietlow deemed it a "very successful event" with several members present to assist. The raffle paid out \$1,000 while raising the same amount for the Club 77 account.

#### **Tipton Named Company Administrator**

Liz Tipton has become company administrator for Union Pacific Employee Clubs and the UPEC Friend to Friend Network. She succeeds Rene Orosco, who recently retired.

Joining UP in 2012 as a senior analyst with the Human Resources Department, Tipton later served as manager-HR customer service before taking her current role

as director-safety initiatives. Among her duties, she promotes engagement in Total Safety Culture (TSC). She noted parallels between UP's employee-owned safety process and UPEC.

"Both have employees who are dedicated to UP and want to continue making it a great organization," she said. "It's an extremely noble task, and I'm interested in learning more about what the clubs do."

An Omaha native, Tipton graduated from the University of Kansas, then taught high school math in Baltimore, Maryland. She also worked for Omaha Public Schools before joining UP. She and her husband, Daniel, were married in September.

#### SEND IN YOUR PHOTOS

AtTRACKtions highlights the activities of Union Pacific Employee Clubs, which helps give other clubs ideas for fundraisers and social events.

If you have photos or stories you'd like to include in upcoming editions, please contact:

Matt Anderson

matt@newslink.con

## What's Your Favorite Part About Being a UPEC Member?

"Helping a local member of the community during a difficult time. The appreciation and gratitude expressed were well worth the hard work."

- Deanna Badgley, Club 19, Hermiston, Oregon/UPEC Executive Committee



#### **UNION PACIFIC EMPLOYEE CLUBS Presidents Roster**

Pat Reed Cheyenne, Wyo. 3 Omaha, Neb. Shar York 6 Marsha Stephens Ogden, Utah 8 North Platte, Neb. Mick Jesse 9 Portland, Ore. Angela Liechty 10 Spokane, Wash. Marguerite Haverfield 11 Los Angeles **Ernest Flament** 12 Salt Lake City **Bev Thrall** Pocatello, Idaho Gene Packer 15 17 La Grande, Ore. Josh Rock 18 Green River, Wyo. Dorothy Walker 19 Hermiston, Ore. **Bob Daniels** 20 Evanston, Wyo. Wayne Morrow 22 Seattle Alfred Wilson 24 Walla Walla, Wash. Ted Bren 28 Marysville, Kan. Marilee Adams 30 The Dalles, Ore. **Gary Conley** 32 Salina, Kan. Jim Kirk Portola, Calif. John Bontas 39 Stockton, Calif. Robert Lemon 50 Chicago Jeronn Sisson 51 Fort Worth Diana McDowell 53 Houston **Aaron Tinnell** North Little Rock, Ark. Johnny Burk 54 57 Margaret Wick Addis, La. 65 Alexandria, La. James Drayton 66 San Antonio Joe De La Garza 67 Livonia, La. **Donald Gholson** 70 St. James. Minn. Cleo Erickson John Gavin 71 Milwaukee 72 Mason City, Iowa Kurt Christensen 75 Altoona, Wis. John Elstran 76 Boone, Iowa John Dawkins 77 Dominic Pantaleo Adams, Wis. 78 Ft. Dodge/Eagle Grove, Iowa Gloria Spiegel

**Gary Steele** 

**Rusty Beames** 

Raj Randhawa

83

84

86

Sparks, Nev.

Herington, Kan.

Roseville, Calif.



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### **North Platte Rail Days**

North Platte, Nebraska, home of the world's largest railroad classification yard, hosted Rail Days Sept. 15-17. Employee Club 8 again played a key role in the festival's success.

On Saturday, members grilled hot dogs and hamburgers for UP employees and their guests. The event was well attended, which Club 8's Lynn Steinbeck credited in part to thorough planning and publicity. He also thanked UP for donating the food for the grill out.

"We did a good job of getting everyone on the same page this year," he said. "We enjoy the camaraderie — all the people who serve together, both retirees and employees. It's a UP family."

Other Rail Days events included a model train show, tours of the Golden Spike Tower and Bailey Yard, Operation Lifesaver train rides and live music.

Attendees also gave generously to the UPEC Friend to Friend Network, said Brenna Derra, Total Safety Culture facilitator and network ambassador.

"They were more than willing to make donations," she said. "Their generosity has been amazing."