



TCU/IAM Advanced Training

National President Robert A. Scardelletti
National Vice President David L. Steele
Senior Executive Director Diane J. Dettmann

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2013



Atlanta TCU/IAM Students Learn About the History of the Program's Union

Contact one of our Regional Coordinators for more info:

Steve Brando
National Coordinator
brandos@tcunion.org
(301) 840-6207

Oscar Derderian, Jr.
Philadelphia and Boston Regions
derderiano@tcunion.org
(978) 897-7900

Nicole Burnett
Atlanta and Chicago Regions
burnett@tcunion.org
(770) 603-9033

David Kollewe
San Francisco and Dallas Regions
kollewed@tcunion.org
(530) 346-6071



President Scardelletti addressing Atlanta TCU/IAM students.

program and the successful reputation it has in placing students into meaningful transportation careers. Students learned how our employer partners, in cooperation with the TCU/IAM Union, help support their job search efforts.

In May, the IAM celebrated their 125th Anniversary in Atlanta, Georgia. While attending the anniversary celebration, TCU/IAM National President Robert Scardelletti, along with TCU/IAM Executive Council members, and other guests, visited the Atlanta TCU/IAM advanced training location.

National President Scardelletti shared words of wisdom and praise for the entire program. He encouraged the students to work hard to obtain a "good union job" for the great wages, benefits, and potential for lifelong job security.

National Vice President Steele spoke to the students about the effectiveness of the



NVP David Steele, NP Robert Scardelletti, Instructor Trudy Dean, Student Ziyonna Jenkins



Front row - Students Shakala Smith, Helen Collazo, Trystan Starnes, Seth Mensah (far right) Back row - National Staff Dir. Constitution and Laws Steve Wilhelm, NR/ANLD Mark Taylor, NVP Tom Truhler, NVP David Steele, TCU/IAM National President Robert Scardelletti, NVP/NLD Ron Kloos, NVP Joel Parker, NVP Art Maratea, NVP/Carman President Richard Johnson, ANLD Bill Kelaher.

The TCU/IAM Advanced Training Program would like to thank all of our Job Corps, Employer, and Union partners for helping our students and for contributing to our 115.5% rating and an 'A' grade in Program Year 2012 (ending June 30, 2013).

Our 6 month follow up Average Weekly earnings were \$567.30/wk!

Visit our website at <http://tcu.jobcorps.gov>

TRANSPORTATION PLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

ELIJAH MCGILL
Gary TCU/IAM
TTX
Maintenance Specialist
\$15.48/hr

FAVIOLA RIVERA
Los Angeles TCU/IAM
AMTRAK
Food Specialist
\$19.58/hr

JELEEN FURGUERSON
Potomac TCU/IAM
USDA- Office of Ethics
Secretary
\$12.00/hr

DAVID GIFFEN
San Jose TCU/IAM
Airport Terminal Services
Ramp Agent
\$14.71/hr

KELLI COWAN
Shriver TCU/IAM
AMTRAK
Assistant Passenger
Conductor
\$15.75/hr

SAMANTHA LUCUS
St Louis TCU/IAM
Knapheide Manufacturing
Welder
\$13.68/hr

BRANDON GROOVER
Excelsior Springs TCU/IAM
Knapheide Manufacturing
Welder
\$13.48/hr

BRANDEN HARRISON
Humphrey TCU/IAM
AMTRAK
Lead Service Attendant
\$18.82/hr

Niliza Simmons
Atlanta TCU/IAM
Amtrak
Auto Train Attendant
\$18.18 /hr.

*Companies are
really liking our
students...*

Kansas City Southern



TCU/IAM student **Otis Parker, Excelsior Springs (San Diego transfer)**, graduated the program with the credentials of Advanced Rail Mechanical Service Worker.

Upon graduation, he was immediately hired by **Kansas City Southern Railroad** in Laredo, TX. His promising career as a carman includes making \$19.80/hr, health care, paid vacation, and an excellent retirement plan.

Otis stated "Attending the TCU/IAM Program at Excelsior Springs Job Corps Center was the best decision of my life. I have felt supported every step of the way."

Knapheide



At our newest employer partner **Knapheide, Excelsior Springs'** Ross Huffstutler, Jessica Newsom, William Blankenship (**Pine Knot transfer**) are MIG welders and build flatbed trucks with a starting pay of \$13.48/hr.

Union Pacific Railroad

In March, Angelika Pace was an outstanding student in the TCU/IAM Advanced Training Program at **Humphrey (Cleveland transfer)**. She applied for several jobs and was chosen to attend an information session for a **Union Pacific Train Crew** position in Itasca, WI. She passed the testing, interview, and physical and strength assessment and was selected for the position. Her training began in August with a starting wage of \$20.00/hr.



WMATA- (Metro)



Keavon Atkins, **Potomac**, completed the Auto Mechanic trade at the **Schenck Job Corps Center** in North Carolina. Keavon was accepted into the TCU/IAM Advanced Training Program at the Potomac Job Corps Center. Having come from a mechanical trade he knew that TCU/IAM was his ticket into the door with the companies he wanted.

Keavon interviewed with **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)** and impressed the hiring managers so much they immediately offered him a position as a Cleaner/Shifter starting at \$13.65/hr. Keavon accepted, but there was one more step, "I had to pass my permit tests for my CDL" He studied his CDL Permit book and passed all three sections. He was assigned to the Metro facility just one block from the Potomac TCU/IAM Advanced Training Program. He has visited often, excited to share his new life at Metro with his friends and instructors.

Our Alumni Remember Their Roots—

Many Careers Have Been Launched From TCU/IAM Advanced Training.

Shriver TCU/IAM Visited by Alumnus and Guest

Former **Humphrey** TCU/IAM student and TCU/IAM Amtrak Division Chairman, Charles Jackson, and Amtrak Boston Local #1089 Chairman Daniel McLaughlin visited the Shriver program. Charles completed the program in 1986 and works for Amtrak in New York City in a Customer Service position.

Both guests spoke about how they started their careers on the railroad and union office. Charles also told the students about when he graduated from the program, how much it did for him, and how he is involved in giving back to the training program.



Stephanie Dion-FER, Barbara Holt-LFER, Andrew Algarin-FEA, Daniel Trott-Shriver student, Daniel McLaughlin— Local Chairman, Diana Crawford-FER, and Charles Jackson, TCU/IAM Amtrak Division Chairman and TCU/IAM alumnus



Alumnus Desarael Black and Todd Davies, FER

The Desarael Black Story—St. Louis

Desarael Black began Job Corps in December, 2010, thinking he would pursue health care training, knowing that the job market in health care would be growing. Then he saw a presentation about the TCU/IAM Advanced Training Program. He had never considered a career in the transportation field before that moment, but the career opportunities seemed almost too good to pass up.

Now, instead of taking the pulse of a patient, passing out medication, and drawing blood, Desarael is keeping the nation's passenger rail system healthy and running as a railcar repairer with Amtrak in Sunnyside Yard in Queens, NY. After successfully completing the TCU/IAM Training Program, Desarael was hired by Amtrak and started on November 28, 2011 with a starting salary of \$26.34/hr.

In April of 2013 Desarael bid into Amtrak's heavy repair facility in Beech Grove, IN and is enjoying the new responsibilities of rebuilding, repairing and refurbishing that takes place in Beech Grove. Desarael visited the St. Louis TCU/IAM program where he was able to speak with students about the exciting rail industry and a career with Amtrak.

Career Path From Los Angeles TCU/IAM Classroom to Director of System Safety

The Los Angeles TCU/IAM program had the pleasure of a special visit from Fred Jackson, Director of System Safety at Southern California Rail Authority (SCRA) Metrolink. Mr. Jackson was a 1980 graduate of the LA TCU/IAM program and also worked with TCU/IAM LFER Paul Dickinson at Amtrak after completing the program. He was very excited to come back and speak to our students.

Mr. Jackson, a powerful and motivational speaker really held the students' attention. He talked about a professional attitude and how he owes it all to Job Corps for where he is today. His career is a great testimonial for current students and gave them a positive outlook as they go through the program.



Alumnus Fred Jackson

San Jose Students Shadow Transportation Industry Workers

San Jose TCU/IAM students spent Groundhog Job Shadow day at Amtrak, United Airlines, and Greyhound bus lines in the San Jose, CA area. They had the opportunity to explore various job duties while job shadowing, learning about the company and its daily operations and the importance of good customer service. They all thoroughly enjoyed being able to see and observe first hand the daily operations in careers of their choice. The San Jose TCU/IAM staff is thankful their employer partners were able to contribute to the student's success and great experience.



San Jose students Michael Nielson and Romero Willis at Amtrak.



San Jose students Darra Bell and Marcos Tincher at Greyhound



San Jose students Karen Mattos and Tyler Palmer at United Airlines

Natural Disaster Hits Home for Former Excelsior Springs TCU/IAM Student



Excelsior Springs' Donna Darling, TCU/IAM students Richard Hanno, Keith Hohmann and Carl Grace

Donna Darling, a high school program teacher at ESJCC asked for donations to put together care kits to be donated to Heart to Heart, an international company that responds to communities in crisis. She challenged the TCU/IAM students to donate money to help. They raised \$180 to purchase items for the care kits.

As a part of program the students tried to imagine leaving the dorms in the morning with only what they had with them, with no dorm to return to. However, Steven Long, a TCU/IAM graduate and now a TTX employee, lives in Moore, OK and he could more than imagine. He experienced first hand the devastation of the tornadoes that tore through Oklahoma in May. The elementary school, and businesses that were hit were within walking distance of his apartment. Steven's apartment was still standing however he was left with no water or electricity. Luckily, a fellow coworker opened his home to Steven until he was able to return home.

Gary TCU/IAM Expands Hands-On Training Equipment

The Carman/Machinist program has had tremendous success at the Gary JCC. Hands-on training is vital in the student's learning and becoming accustomed to how their future work environment could be.

Student Tyler Martin worked with Gary TCU/IAM Instructor Lane Shelton to build a portable vice/grinding table that can be used outside of the welding bay on campus. Inside and outside hands-on projects like these help TCU/IAM Advanced Training students get a feel for some of the projects that may lay ahead for them on the job.



Where Are Our Recent Graduates Getting Hired?



ASHLEY INGRAM
Potomac/Whitney M. Young
Piedmont/US Airways
Ramp/Customer Service Agent
\$10.10/hr



ISABEL ORANTES
Shriver/Grafton
Amtrak
Lead Service Attendant
\$18.82/hr



BRETT TRAFTON
Gary/Schenck
TTX
Maintenance Specialist
\$15.06/hr



KIJUANA MONTGOMERY
San Jose
Airport Terminal Services
Ground Service Agent
\$14.71/hr



TYANN CROWDER
Los Angeles
Amtrak
Train Attendant
\$18.18/hr



ROBERT SCHAMHART
Gary/ Inland Empire
Canadian National Railroad
Apprentice Signalman
\$21.48/hr



ANDREA WILLIAMS
Potomac
Amtrak
Red Cap/ Customer
Service
\$13.12/hr



ERICA SIMS
San Jose/Inland Empire
SkyWest
Ramp Agent
\$12.35/hr



YONIK JOSEPH
Gary
Amtrak
Coach Cleaner
\$16.09/hr



BENTON MCKENZIE
Gary/ Earle C. Clements
Burlington Northern
Santa Fe
Conductor
\$20.00/hr



SAHARIAH REESE
St. Louis/Mingo
Amtrak
Assistant Conductor
\$19.69/hr



KELLI COWAN
Shriver/Muhlenberg
Amtrak
Assistant Conductor
\$15.75/hr

Moving on Up! How Are Our Graduates Doing Now?



SAMANTHA TAMES

Los Angeles

Amtrak

Train Attendant (2011)

From \$17.65/hr

To Conductor

\$29.92/hr



JESSICA HATLEY

San Jose/ Trapper Creek

Canadian Pacific Railway

From Conductor Trainee (2011)

\$18.31/hr To

Fulltime Conductor

\$26.35/hr



MARTHA GARCIA

Humphrey/ Muhlenberg

Amtrak

LSA (2007)

From \$14.87/hr To

Customer Service Representative

\$27.75/hr



JESSICA BREWER

Atlanta/ Turner

Amtrak

From Train Service Attendant

\$17.85/hr (2012)

To Lead Service Attendant

\$20.00/hr



SEPT MUYAGE

Shriver/Old Dominion

Amtrak

Assistant Conductor (2011)

From \$15.75/hr To \$22.85/hr

STEVEN TOKO

Gary/Oconaluftee

Union Pacific

Freight Conductor (2012)

From \$20.00 To \$34.04/hr



JARRETT BRIGHAM

Excelsior Springs/ Memphis

Amtrak

From LSA \$14.33/hr (2006) —To

Assistant Conductor To

Conductor To

Trainmaster –Salary...doing very

well! The sky's the limit!