

# A Record Day at Riverside

## Supporting Safety in the Alamo City



From left are Operation Lifesaver volunteer Jim Ruiz, Consultant-Risk Management Buck Russel, Manager-Risk Management Robyn Klar, Club 66 member Gary Featherling, Senior Analyst-Field Hazardous Materials Josh Carrillo and Club 66 member Charlotte Featherling.

Club 66 members talked rail safety with hundreds of community members at Safe Kids Day San Antonio May 19.

"We're not only able to reach out to kids, but also their parents," said Consultant-Risk Management Buck

Russel, Club 66 member. "It's part of our ongoing mission to spread our messaging and support Safe Kids Worldwide."

Union Pacific was one of several entities present for the event, hosted at a Lowe's in northwest San Antonio. Attendees also could meet with representatives from the San Antonio Fire Department, the National Safety Council, the American Association of Poison Control Centers and even the San Antonio Zoo, all in the name of stopping preventable injuries — the No. 1 cause of death of children in the United States. A highlight was seeing how the University Health System's AirLIFE helicopter could land in such a small spot, Club 66 member Charlotte Featherling said.

Safe Kids Worldwide helps families and communities keep children safe from injuries. The nonprofit organization works with an extensive network of more than 400 coalitions in the United States and with partners in more than 30 countries

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## From the Chairman

Greetings, everyone —

The last week of June, we returned to Seattle to coordinate with our hotel, the Marriott Bellevue. It's a great facility in a beautiful city, and we believe they'll be a fine host for our 95th convention. Liz Tipton, our company administrator, traveled with us. She has been incredible in her first year in the role, and we look forward to working with her for many years.

But first comes Salt Lake City. I look forward to seeing everyone soon, when we will set the course for the future of UPEC. Please come prepared to share ideas for growing our ranks and helping our communities.

Of course, the UPEC Friend to Friend Network is the chief recipient of our efforts. In this edition, you'll read a handful of stories about our brothers and sisters who have gotten help in times of great need. It's more important than ever that we raise funds so that we can continue to provide that help. See you in Utah!

-Bob



Bob Moore, UPEC chairman

# Helping Nathan and Jason

With his son facing his second battle with brain tumors, the last thing Jason Tobias wanted to hear was that he had one, too.



"You can't plan for times like this at all," said the Klamath Falls, Oregon-based track inspector.

Three years ago, then-13-year-old Nathan suf-

fered from recurring headaches. They were initially diagnosed as "growing pains," and treated with over-the-counter medication.

One day, Jason was in a safety meeting at work when his wife, Paula, called from the emergency room. Nathan was suffering from slurred speech and loss of muscle control in his face.

A CAT scan discovered a mass, and he was diagnosed with craniopharyngioma, a benign

brain tumor near the pituitary gland.

When Nathan underwent treatment at Doernbecher Children's Hospital in Portland — a five-hour drive from the family's home in Klamath Falls — a letter and check from the UPEC Friend to Friend Network arrived.

"We got that help, no questions asked," Jason said. "We were in Portland for 12 days, and food alone is a huge expense. Friend to Friend helped us tremendously."

Surgeons removed the tumor, although it affected Nathan's endocrine system, which will require him to take various medications for the rest of his life.

Last year, signs of a recurrence appeared. Nathan wanted to have the new tumor removed, and as the family explored treatment options, they learned his father had one of his own.

"I was dizzy and getting headaches," Jason said. "I felt like I was in vertigo all the time. Eventually my vision blurred and I had a hard time writing."

Jason's diagnosis was hemangioblastoma,

a benign spinal tumor that can cause significant neurological problems.

The first week of May, the Tobias family again journeyed north — this time to Bend, Oregon, where Jason's tumor was successfully removed. He has a July 20 follow-up and MRI scheduled, the results of which will determine when he returns to his railroad duties.

Nathan returned to Doernbecher June 5. Surgeons removed most of the recurrence, and Nathan will undergo a one-time radiation treatment in a few months to eliminate the rest. The prognosis is good, his father said.

Facing so many challenges, Jason, Paula, Nathan and his brother, 14-year-old Dylan, were touched to receive another letter in the mail.

"We got another check from Friend to Friend — again, no questions asked," Jason said. "Someone learned about my tumor and called them.

"Friend to Friend's help was absolutely amazing."

## 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.

## **Members Make Way for Toad Suck Daze**

While chickens may take a willy-nilly approach to crossing the road, toads — well, Toad Suck Daze attendees, to be more precise — take grade crossing safety seriously.

"Participating in Toad Suck Daze is a wonderful way for our club to help our community," said Club 54 Secretary



Robin Burk, who noted the springtime festival attracts more than 100,000 people annually to downtown Conway, Arkansas.

The name harkens back to the steamboat era. When the water was too shallow, boats tied up near where the Toad Suck Ferry Lock and Dam now spans the Arkansas River near Conway. Unable to travel, crews were known to seek refreshments at the local tavern until the waters rose. "They suck on the bottle 'til they swell up like toads," locals would comment.

As the three-day event occurs near UP tracks, Burk and 43 other vest-adorned, stop sign-wielding club members spent the weekend guiding the pedestrians across several railroad crossings.

Members' efforts were greatly appreciated, Club 54 President Johnny Burk guards a busy crossing during Toad Suck Daze in Conway, Ark.

according to Club 54 Vice President Dale Fulenwider, who noted it helped attendees to safely enjoy the toad races, parade and live music. Eventgoers also collectively donated \$120,000 to benefit 25 schools throughout six Arkansas counties.



## Club 54 Raises Green On the Greens

Once a year, Club 54 members host their Adopt-A-Child Golf Tournament, benefiting lowincome students of North Little Rock, Arkansas.

The April 28 event at Burns Park Golf Course raised about \$6,000 to help the children who attend schools such as Boone Park Elementary.



From left, Vice President Dale Fulenwider and President Johnny Burk man the grill during Club 54's Adopt-A-Child Golf Tournament.

"We buy whatever they need," said Dale Fulenwider, Club 54 vice president. "Last time, we bought a bunch of coats, backpacks and classroom supplies, and redid their swing sets."

Sixty-eight people attended the tournament. UP Vendors sponsored all but one of the 14 teams participating, and Club 54 members sold meals.

"It's always good to feed the golfers and get them out to play," said Richard Baldwin, Club 54 member and UPEC Friend to Friend Network treasurer.

Club 54 members arrived at 5 a.m. to start preparing food. After serving both breakfast and lunch, volunteers worked till 4 p.m. to clean and pack up.

"We always have a good time," Fulenwider said. "Friendships grow as we work together."



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# A Record Day at Riverside



The sun shone brightly on Council Bluffs, Iowa, May 18 as 37 teams — about 145 employees, retirees, vendors and friends — teed off at Dodge Riverside Golf Club.

The result: \$20,691 for the UPEC Friend to Friend Network, the largest figure to date raised by the annual tournament.

While participants enjoyed vying for pin prizes and bragging rights, the main purpose of the day was clear.

"We're helping our people while having a great time," said Madalyn Johnson, assistant manager-asset disposition.

"I've seen a lot of my friends benefit from it," said Carman Cody Heiden, who helps maintain UP's Heritage Fleet. "I'm 100 percent behind it."

The UPEC Friend to Friend Network Committee thanks everyone who played, donated or helped organize the tournament and looks forward to getting together again next May.



Teeing off for TRC No. 2 are, from left, Chris Harvey, Mark Lutz, Ryan Gottsch and Jerad Harmsen.



Playing for TRC's No. 1 team are, from left, Bill James, Eric Kaplan, David Circo and Josh Sauer.



From left are Ruben's Raiders: Aaron Keller, Jo Lynne Lehan, Todd Harvey and Kevin Boyd.



The RBC Bearing team includes, from left, Andrew Loutzenheiser, Jeremy Nauss, Jason Nauss and Pat Foley.



From left, the team sponsored by Rene Orosco also includes David Young, Steve Kessler and Brant Handquist.



The HDC South team includes, from left, Paul Nigrin, Tim Speichert, Brandon Martens and Nate Kamprath.



Playing for Lejak & Associates are, from left, John Marks, Ben Olson, Madalyn Johnson and Lee Winkler.



Playing on behalf of Amsted Rail are, from left, Kevin Kasperbauer, Lou Oborny, Keith McCabe and Dave Tuma.



Playing in memory of John Erickson are, from left, Steve Whitney, Kevin Hanlon, Ronnie Melheim and Tom Flatau.



Representing the Heartland Service Unit are, from left, Mike Buttry, Mike Santa Maria, Christopher Allen and Doug Hageman.



The Metro East Industries team includes, from left, Brian Marty, Jeremy Givens, Danny Marty and Mark Bendon.



The North Platte Service Unit team includes, from left, Scot Tormondson, Jay Penner, Ryan Long and JD Morgan



The second PowerRail team includes, from left, Doug Mroczek, Yuko Inhofe and Brad Erickson.



The first PowerRail team includes, from left, Bob Harvilla, Tad Volkman, Mary Volkman and Peg Souba.



Team HAHADY includes, from left, Rhiannon Knezevich, Stan Burjek, Craig Mitchell and Brian Halladay.



Playing on behalf of Fugiel Railroad Supply are, from left, Mark Applegate, Tony Militti and Josh Gilmore.



The Heritage Fleet No. 2 team includes, from left, Romas Zaliauskas, Ryan Goodman, Romas Zaliauskas Jr. and Tracy Murray.



Playing for the HDC No. 1 team are, from left, Derek Wever, Steve Chapman, Liz Tipton and Adam Williamson.



Brad Gornall, right, sponsors a team that also includes Kevin Kuehl, left, and Rex Beck.



General Electric's No. 1 team includes, from left, Rich Gottschalk, Jay Dempsey, Chris Miller and Korey Cook.



HDC's No. 2 team includes, from left, Tori Hagelstein, Mike Schultz, Jacob Landers and Jeremy Husen.



Playing for General Electric No. 2 are, from left, Derek Williams, Eric Lager, Nelly Tirado and Marc Povondra.



Play for West is Best are, from left, Sean Dowler, Brandon Morris, Kyle Bock and Pat Doty.



The UP Mechanical No. 2 team includes, from left, Trent Peterson, Keith Bowman, Jeff Miller and Rick Grasmick.



## Why Do You Play?

"We're all one big railroad family. Raising money so that we can provide help when a member of our family needs it means a great deal."

— Roger Laubscher, senior specialist-positive train control training, Omaha





"When our employees need assistance, we've got the funding to help them and their families. It makes me feel great to help."

Lonnie Deaver, manager-technical training, Omaha



"Whether you know the person or not, or the situation they're in, all of us will need help at some time in our life. It's a great group that does great things."

- Tom Geary, train dispatcher, Omaha



"You're helping Friend to Friend so it can help other people. It's a good organization, and this is a good way of raising money." — Kevin Hanlon, brakeman/UPEC past chairman, St. James, Minn.



"I like that every dollar you give goes directly to another railroader in need. It's all donated." – Pat Foley, senior manager-system locomotive facility, Kansas City, Mo.

"I've seen a lot of railroad families struggle in times of medical need — a child, wife, husband gets sick. Friend to Friend gives them a little boost. It helps put food on the table. Today's a really fun day, but there's an extra layer of meaning when you know you're doing something for a person who need help."

- Liz Tipton, company administrator, Omaha



# We Want 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 402-475-6397 matt@newslink.com

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 Robin Burk, Don Dolan, Charlotte Featherling, Buck Russel, Aaron Tinnell and Rita Zietlow.

## **Tinnell Talks Rail Safety with Customer**

Club 53 President Aaron Tinnell shared his expertise about rail safety with a Houston-area petrochemical customer March 27 and 29.

Joined by Conductor David Welch, Tinnell, a locomotive engineer, visited Enterprise Products' Mont Belvieu, Texas, facility in conjunction with a safety blitz organized by the company's Mike McNallen, a safety coordinator and Tinnell's



Locomotive Engineer Aaron Tinnell, left, and Conductor David Welch, right, give a joint Operation Lifesaver/UP CARES presentation at Enterprise Products following an invitation from Safety Coordinator Mike McNallen.

longtime friend.

Using both UP CARES and Operation Lifesaver material and messaging, the duo discussed a plethora of safety topics with about 75 Enterprise employees, many of whom interact with railroad tracks and equipment daily.

"It was excellent," Tinnell said. "They asked a lot of questions. We could tell they really enjoyed it."

Tinnell and Welch also clarified who to contact in the event of an incident, such as equipment or a vehicle stuck on the tracks.

"They have a lot of track on their property and have had some close calls," Tinnell said. "Many of the employees weren't sure who to call if something was stuck on the tracks or didn't know how long it takes a train to stop."

Tinnell and Welch — both of whom visited the facility on their own time — discussed why they dedicate themselves to help reinforce safety for the customers and communities they serve.

"I don't want to see people get hurt on the tracks," Tinnell said. "If I can share knowledge out there, it helps me just as much."

The two intend to return to Enterprise to make similar presentations in the future.

## Supporting Safety in the Alamo City



Community members, families and kids stop by UP's booth for fun games

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to reduce traffic injuries, drownings, falls, burns, poisonings and more.

The multiyear partnership between UP and Safe Kids has created an evidenced-based educational rail safety program paired with an awareness campaign geared toward parents, caregivers and children. The program aims to educate and bring awareness to safe pedestrian and driver behavior around

railroad tracks with the ultimate goal of eliminating rail-related injuries and deaths.

"It was a great event," Featherling said. "There was a lot of educational information to help the kids learn how to be safe."

UP and Club 66 intend to participate in Safe Kids Day again next year, Russel said.

## Club 77 Cleans Up Right of Way



From left, Club 77 members Roberta Ritchhart, Kim Ritchhart, Greg Sorenson, Richard Zietlow and Jack Jasinski clean up a stretch of Wisconsin Highway 21. Also participating but not pictured is Bruce Nachreiner.

Constantly finding ways to help their community, Club 77 members have looked after a 1-mile stretch of Wisconsin Highway 21 since 2003.

With trash bags in tow, the men and women pick up refuse along the tree-lined thruway 10 minutes east of Arkdale two to three times a year — all in the hope of making it a better place.

"We are fortunate to have it," said Rita Zietlow, Club 77 member. Club 77 Adams, Wisconsin

Throughout the years, other com-

panies in the surrounding area have followed their lead and adopted sections of the highway.



# UNION PACIFIC EMPLOYEE CLUBS Presidents Roster

Cheyenne, Wyo. Pat Reed 3 Omaha **Shar York** 6 Ogden, Utah Marsha Stephens North Platte, Neb. Mick Jesse 9 **Portland** Don Dolan 10 Spokane, Wash. Maggie Haverfield 11 Los Angeles Ernie Flament 12 Salt Lake City **Rev Thrall** 15 **Pocatello** Gene Packer 17 La Grande, Ore. Josh Rock 18 Green River, Wyo. **Dorothy Walker** 19 Hermiston, Ore. **Bob Daniels** 20 Evanston, Wyo. Wavne Morrow 22 Al Wilson Seattle 24 Walla Walla, Wash. Ted Bren 28 Marysville, Kan. Marilee Adams 30 The Dalles, Ore. **Gary Conley** 32 Salina, Kan. Jim Kirk 38 Portola, Calif. John Bontas 39 Stockton, Calif. Robert Lemon 50 Chicago Jeronn Sisson 51 Fort Worth, Texas Diana McDowell 53 Houston **Aaron Tinnell** North Little Rock, Ark. Johnny Burk Margaret Wick 57 Addis, La. Alexandria, La. 65 James Drayton 66 San Antonio Joe De La Garza 67 Livonia, La. **Donald Gholson** 70 St. James, Minn. Cleo Erickson 71 Milwaukee, Wis. John Gavin Mason City, Iowa Kurt Christensen 72 75 Altoona, Wis. John Elstran John Dawkins Boone, Iowa 76 77 Adams, Wis. **Dominic Pantaleo** 

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78

83

The UPEC Executive Committee now has a Facebook page! "Like" it to see updates on the committee's activities and other announcements.

Gloria Spiegel

**Rusty Beames** 

Cathy Gregg

**Gary Steele** 

Find it at www.facebook.com/upecchair or search Facebook for "UPEC Executive Committee."



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## Smiles Bright at Oregon Event



About a dozen Club 9 members volunteered May 10 at an event for special

needs students in Tualatin, Oregon.

Hosted by the Sherwood, Oregon, School district, about 70 children enjoyed close-up views of a fire truck and motorcycle, played games and dined on pizza prepared by volunteers. Club 9 father-son duo Ken and Tim Kubick also set up a model train set.

The best part of the event, according to Club 9 President Don Dolan — a former bus driver for the school district — has stayed the same throughout their years of participating.

"When the kids come off the bus, they have the biggest smiles," he said. "They look forward to it each year."



Club 9 member Ken Kubik, left, and his son, Yardmaster Tim Kubik, man the model train set.



Children enjoy close-up views of a police motorcycle and other response vehicles.



About 70 special needs students enjoy a fun-filled day of activities — and pizza.