



# TCU/IAM Advanced Training

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**TCU/IAM  
PLACES  
STUDENTS IN  
GREEN  
INDUSTRIES**

**AMTRAK  
recently  
introduced 80  
new vehicle  
carriers for the  
Auto Train.  
These are  
substantially  
lighter than the  
ones they  
replaced and  
have helped  
reduce annual  
diesel fuel  
usage by about  
640,000  
gallons—while  
carrying more  
vehicles.**



## Excelsior Springs TCU/IAM Receives its First Piece of Hands on Training Equipment

The Carmen program at Excelsior Springs has just received its first set of wheels that were donated to the TCU/IAM program through a joint effort of local unions, industry partners, and the TCU/IAM staff at Excelsior Springs.

After several phone calls, approvals, logistics, and preparation, the

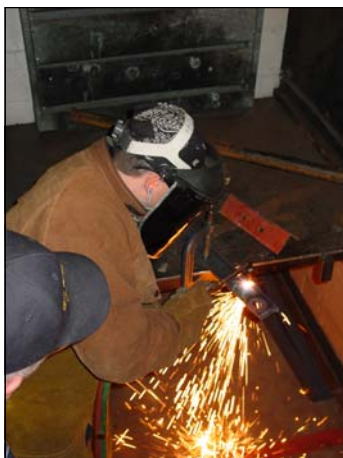


Far Left: Patrick Ameen, Vice President Amsted Rail, Center: Susan Stanley, LFER TCU/IAM, Far Right: Caroline Pauley, ESJCC Director of Training and the TCU/IAM Students

wheel set finally arrived! Students will now be able to inspect this wheel set for defects

using gages used in the Carmen craft. This is one of several projects which will be taking place at Excelsior Springs this year. They have already mounted this wheel set on rail and ties which have also been donated to the program. Other union trades on center have joined in to help make this project come to life. Great job Excelsior team!!!

## TCU/IAM Welds well with Job Corps



The TCU/IAM Carmen/Machinist Program at Excelsior Springs has a working relationship with the ESJCC Welding Program to ensure that these Advanced Training students are prepared for the jobs that become available to them.

The ESJCC welding instructor, Jon Stine works closely with

LFER Susan Stanley to schedule students for the welding portion of the training. LFER Stanley and Stine communicate on a regular basis so the students will finish a variety of safety training in the TCU/IAM classroom. Mr. Stine certifies the students in OSHA 10 prior to hands on welding.

# TCU/IAM Transferred 85 Students this Quarter!



## ATLANTA REGION

Gadsden: 2  
 Gainesville: 3  
 Jacobs Creek: 1  
 Kittrell: 1  
 Memphis: 1  
 Schenck: 1

## CHICAGO REGION

Atterbury: 2  
 Blackwell: 2  
 Cleveland: 1  
 Denison: 2  
 Detroit: 1  
 Flint Hills: 2  
 Golconda: 2  
 Joliet: 3

## PHILADELPHIA REGION

Carl D. Perkins: 4  
 Earle C. Clements: 3  
 Flatwoods: 2  
 Harpers Ferry: 5  
 Muhlenberg: 4  
 Old Dominion: 4  
 Whitney M. Young: 3  
 Woodstock: 1

## BOSTON REGION

Cassadaga: 1  
 Delaware Valley: 2  
 Edison: 4  
 Exeter: 3  
 Grafton: 1  
 Iroquois: 1  
 Penobscot: 1  
 Westover: 1

## DALLAS REGION

Clearfield: 1  
 Kicking Horse: 1  
 Little Rock 3  
 North Texas: 1  
 Ouachita: 1  
 Shreveport: 1  
 Treasure Lake: 2

## SAN FRANCISCO REGION

Inland Empire: 2  
 San Diego: 2  
 Timber Lake: 1  
 Tongue Point: 2  
 Treasure Island: 4

Contact one of our Regional Coordinators for more info:

Steve Brando  
 National Coordinator  
 brandos@tcunion.org

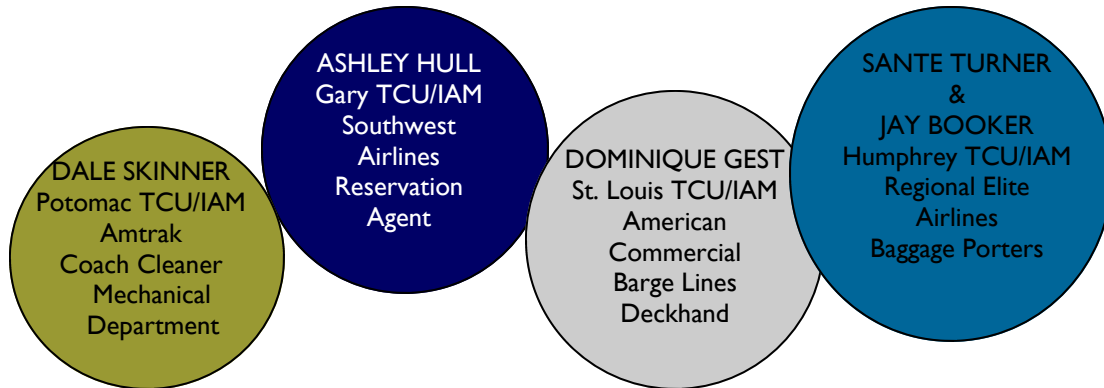
David Kollewe: San Francisco and Dallas Regions  
 kollewed@tcunion.org

Nicole Burnett: Atlanta and Chicago Regions  
 burnettn@tcunion.org

Oscar Derderian: Philadelphia and Boston Regions  
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Or visit our website at <http://tcu.jobcorps.gov>

## TRANSPORTATION PLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



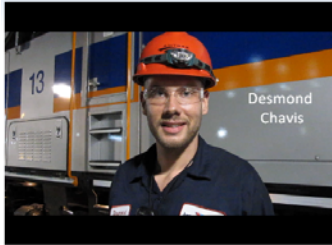
## TCU/IAM STUDENT HIRED AT AMTRAK

A shining star from the Potomac TCU/IAM Advanced Training Program in Washington DC, Courtenay Gilford, was recently hired as a Lead Service Train Attendant (LSA) with Amtrak. His starting pay is

\$17.29/hr! As LSA he will provide the Amtrak riders with excellent customer service to ensure a safe and enjoyable trip. Courtenay already has plans to come back to visit the current

students enrolled in the TCU/IAM Advanced Training Program so that he can share his experiences in the working world!

# What is a Railway Carman?



**Gary TCU/IAM Graduate Desmond Chavis. Hired with Amtrak as a Carman.**

Railway Carmen inspect, troubleshoot, maintain, and repair structural and mechanical components of railway freight, passenger and urban transit rail cars.

The proper usage of tools and equipment is an important part of the Carmen training. TCU/IAM trains students going through the Carmen program on these important safety procedures.

Many TCU/IAM students also take training courses on the MSSC (Manufacturing Skills Standard Council) safety and OSHA 10 safety certifications.

Because of the technical abilities that a Carman needs to possess, welding or auto-mechanics are great trades for Job Corps students to have under their belt before coming into the TCU/IAM Advanced Training Program.

## Assistant Secretary Oates Visits the Los Angeles JCC!

This month the TCU/IAM Los Angeles site was honored by a visit from Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training Jane Oates.

With a background in education, Ms. Oates is a true supporter of the Job Corps training program.

TCU/IAM along with all the other LAJCC trades had a booth on display informing guests of their vocation and skill attainment. Asst. Sec. Oates took a moment to tour the TCU/IAM floor and classroom, and she respectively took time to speak to our students in each classroom.

Our students demonstrated the railroad simulator and the coupling and uncoupling of airbrake hoses to Ms. Oates and guests. Lead Instructor Elaine Tennis said “the entire staff was impressed by Ms. Oates’ sincere interest in the TCU/IAM Advanced Training program”.



Dave Kollewe, TCU/IAM Regional Coordinator, Amanda Arellano TCU/IAM Student and Assistant Secretary Jane Oates.



Assistant Secretary Oates visits with TCU/IAM student Carlos Aguirre at the display booth.

# Shriver Graduate's Moving Graduation Speech



Elaine Pittas came into the Shriver TCU/IAM program in February of 2009. She completed the program in March of this year and left with a great career at Amtrak as a Carman making almost \$25 an hour. This is some of what she shared in her graduation speech about her experience while in Job Corps.



**Elaine Pittas**  
**Shriver TCU/IAM**  
**Alumnus**

“Job Corps has helped many get their High School Diploma, G.E.D, Permit, Driver's License, a vocation, and most importantly a look into the real world and a fresh start. It makes you grow up and realize that you were put here on Earth to do something great, and Shriver is the beginning.

Everyone has greatness within them, it's just a matter of finding it.”

“The Transportation Communications Union (TCU) vocation helped me get my interview at the railroad and the skills I needed to get my foot in the door with Amtrak. The Automotive vocation helped me with the mechanical training that I needed to qualify for the job I now have. I have ended up with not only a dream job but an amazing career as a Carman with Amtrak. I was able to take both trades I had from Job Corps and find a job that suited me. “

## SAFETY FIRST!



Pictured is Patrick Doepfer, Graduate of the TCU/IAM Advanced Training Program at Potomac Job Corps Center. Patrick graduated from TCU/IAM in September 2009. He was hired at the Federal Rail Administration and relocated to Georgia to become a Railroad Safety Inspector Trainee; he will become a Safety Inspector in three more years. He travels 3 out of 4 weeks a month. Patrick has already received a pay raise and is due for another one in just a few months!

Patrick stopped by to visit with his alma mater on his way to visit family in his hometown of Jonestown, PA.