

2007 President's Service & Safety Awards –

# Amtrak Honors Members Whose Dedication 'Is Hard to Find in Today's World'

**October 29, 2007**--A number of TCU members are winners of 2007 President's Service and Safety Awards at Amtrak. Presentation was made at an awards luncheon held today in Washington, DC. *As Amtrak's President and Chief Executive Officer Alex Kummant himself wrote in the introduction to the event program, "Amtrak's workforce demonstrates a high degree of dedication that is hard to find in today's world."*

Key among the honorees were several TCU members who received the award for **Valor**.

Recognized for their fast action on the Silver Star November 8, 2006 were members of the Train 91 crew based in Miami. The train, with 75 passengers, struck a tractor-trailer stopped on the tracks; fuel spilling from the truck ignited alongside and underneath two locomotives, the baggage car, three sleeper cars and the diner. The crew moved into action, using fire extinguishers, moving passengers to the rear of the train and away from harm, and carrying passengers off the train to evacuate. "Thanks to the entire crew's quick thinking, they prevented what could have been a terrible event," a superintendent said. Members of Lodge 2512 on this crew were Chef **Abdeltif Brij**, Lead Service Attendant **Neville Grant**, Train Attendant **James McKenney**, Service Attendant **Linda Smith** and Train Attendant **Dian Wilson**.

Also winning an award for **Valor** was Lodge 5058 member **Carl Ferritto**, a Foreman II from Sanford, Florida. His quick thinking limited the damage done with a train arrived at the Sanford Auto Train terminal November 7, 2006, with a vehicle in flames inside an auto carrier. Ferritto "immediately took command, assessed the situation, and put a plan of action into effect," Amtrak said. "Carl's calm manner during this emergency helped prevent a disaster that would have threatened the safety of the passengers, employees, other automobiles and Amtrak assets."

Winning a **Business Diversity award** was **Eileen Magee**, a member of Lodge 1351 from Philadelphia, created the first of her posters promoting National Women's History Month in 2001 and was honored this year for what have become "a series of innovative posters...hailing the importance of women on the railroad and reminding employees to 'remember the past, celebrate the present, and imagine the future.'"

On the Beech Grove Trolley Car Float Team which won the **Champion of the Rails award** was Lodge 5088's **Michael Milburn**, a sheet metal technician. The team made a float bearing a replica of a 1911 Beech Grove trolley car for the town centennial festival. "The common goodwill" generated built "a bridge with the city government, local leaders and the traveling public" to promote Amtrak.

**Robin Reynolds** won an **Environmental Achievement award**. A member of Loge 5050, he was credited with initiating an overhead light energy savings project, "incorporating environmental stewardship and responsibility," and cited for his "proactive attitude in exceeding environmental compliance."

Four Washington, DC, ticket office employees, all TCU members, were named **Project Excellence winners** for developing a training CD now being incorporated into a new online Station Service Standards manual. They are **Karen Larkin**, Lodge 2502; **Anella Popo-Griffith**, Lodge 570; **Dennis Prophet**, Lodge 570; and **Francine Winters**, Lodge 514.

**Richard Pratt** of Lodge 5092 was named winner of the **2007 Charles Luna Safety Achievement Award**. The award is named for a former president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and is presented to a person or group demonstrating "the highest degree of safety awareness." Pratt is an electric traction supervisor in the New England Division who personally has a 30-year injury-free safety record. He "demonstrates safety to the highest possible level, encouraging his crews to exhibit team spirit by looking out for one another."

Named **Safety Committee of the Year** winners were members of the Central Florida Safety Committee based in Orlando. All members of Lodge 2502, they are **David Anderson**, red cap/baggage man; **William Craig, Jr.**, ticket agent; **Sharon Crane**, red cap/baggage man; **Donald D'Orto**, ticket clerk; and **Danny Gregg**, ticket agent. "In 2006, central Florida stations sustained no injuries, due in part to the committee's efforts," the awards program notes.

Numerous members won **Sustained Excellence Awards**. They are:

- **Nicholas Alleyne**—Lodge 2512: Lead Service Attendant, Transportation, Miami, FL
- **William Anderson**—Lodge 5092: Assistant Division Engineer, Communications and Signals, Engineering, Hamden, CT
- **Brian Bell**-- Lodge 2506: Commuter Clerk, Transportation, Oakland, CA

- **Candace Carter** – Lodge 878: Customer Relations Representative, Marketing and Product Management, Philadelphia, PA
- **Raymond Costanzo** – Lodge 5092: Supervisor, Structures, Engineering, Wilmington, DE
- **Gary Crowe** – Lodge 2502: Ticket Clerk, Transportation, Atlanta, GA
- **Gary Erford** – Lodge 5093: Manager, On-Board Services, Transportation, Seattle, WA
- **Evelyn Gautier** – Lodge 878: Reservation Sales Agent, Marketing and Product Management, Philadelphia, PA
- **Gerald Gibilaro** – Lodge 718: Manager, Food & Beverage, Marketing and Product Development, New York, NY
- **Marcos Gonzalez** – Lodge 2508: Manager, Crew Base, Transportation, Los Angeles, CA
- **Glenn Gray** – Lodge 5087: Material Expeditor, Mechanical, Wilmington, DE
- **Rae Huebner** – Lodge 1351: Coordinator, Production Systems, Mechanical, Philadelphia, PA
- **Donald Johnson** – Lodge 2503: Secretary I, Transportation, Dallas/Fort Worth, TX
- **Paul Johnson** – Lodge 2511: Computer Technician III, Marketing and Product Management, Riverside, CA
- **David Jones** – Lodge 5093: Operations Supervisor, Transportation, Tucson, AZ
- **Thomas Kirk** – Lodge 861: Assistant Superintendent, Southern Division, Transportation, Miami, FL
- **Debra Large** – Lodge 2502: Lead Ticket Agent, Transportation, Jacksonville, FL
- **Carleton MacDonald** – Lodge 2506: Policies and Procedures Officer, Marketing and Product Management, Washington, DC

- **Collin Mason** – Lodge 2512: Lead Service Attendant, Transportation, Washington, DC
- **Marilyn McCouch** – Lodge 1351: Senior Human Resources Specialist (Retired), Human Resources, Philadelphia, PA
- **Dorothy Pope** – Lodge 514: Headquarters Facility Manager, Procurement and Materials Management, Washington, DC
- **Luretha “Cookie” Rhyne** – Lodge 514: Business Analyst, Information Technology, Washington, DC
- **Karen Shannon** – Lodge 570: Manager, Crew Base Operations, Transportation, Miami, FL
- **Veronica Sheahan** – Lodge 2500: Secretary I, Human Resources, Chicago, IL
- **Althera Stiggers** – Lodge 5058: Foreman III, Mechanical, Washington, DC
- **Richard “Joe” Sullivan** – Lodge 2503: Lead Ticket Agent, Transportation, Springfield, IL
- **Robert Sunyoger** – Lodge 2500: Reservation and Information Clerk, Central Division, Chicago, IL
- **Alfred Veltri** – Lodge 5085: Chief of Survey Party, Engineering, Providence, RI

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