



Chronicle

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Huffman's contributions remembered

The recent passing of a former Alton & Southern vice president and general manager marks the end of a unique chapter in the railroad's history.

Herbert Don Huffman, 83, died March 25. Employees owe him a debt of gratitude for his contributions to the company, according to a former associate who knew him well.

"This is the guy who saved the railroad," said Jim Hesse, longtime former A&S secretary to the board of directors and general counsel. "He almost single-handedly turned the railroad around."

"Little do folks know that when Don came on board, the A&S was losing money to the tune of nearly \$100,000 a month which, in 1968, was a lot of money! Don was a man's man who had the vision and moxie to lead this company out of the doldrums into the successful transportation company it is today."

Huffman, born in Clinton, Ind., served in the Navy in World War II, and in the Army as a first lieutenant during the Korean War. He began his railroad career in 1953 as a management trainee with the Rock Island Railroad in Atlantic, Iowa. He rose to assistant superintendent before leaving to join the Missouri Pacific Railroad in 1963 as assistant superintendent in Coffeyville, Kan. Huffman was promoted

to superintendent, general manager and assistant to vice president of operations.

In July 1968, he was appointed vice president and general manager of the newly formed Alton & Southern Railway Company. It had just been incorporated by the Missouri Pacific and the Chicago & North Western Railroad. The two railroads purchased the assets of the A&S from the Aluminum Company of America.

Huffman retired from Alton & Southern in October 1985 and retired from all railroad service in January 1986.

He had resided in Ballwin, Mo., since 1968. In his later years, he enjoyed time with his family and was an avid golfer. Huffman is survived by his wife, Myra; two sons, Brent and Jeff; eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

His family requests that memorial gifts or contributions be made in his name to St. Luke's Hospice in St. Louis or the American Lung Association. Employees, retirees, friends and others may sign the family's online guest book at <http://www.schrader.com>.



Herbert Don Huffman, former A&S vice president and general manager

New manager begins training

Jean Pullen, who will become A&S manager-administration, began training June 1.

Pullen receives training from Beverly Barnes, manager-administration, who plans to retire Sept. 30. She must learn a multitude of duties and reach proficiency in them before Barnes' departure.

She joined the railroad in 1989 as administrative assistant for the vice

president of the National Customer Service Center in St. Louis. Previously, she worked 12 years in banking. The railroader applied after seeing an advertisement.

There's railroad in her blood. Her grandfather retired from UP.

Pullen worked two years at the NCSC and transferred to the Information Technology Department in St. Louis where she was promoted to project coordinator. Her duties included management of payroll, statistical compilation and building events coordination. She was promoted to project engineer in St. Louis and began budgetary responsibilities. When the General Office Building in St. Louis closed in 2004, she relocated to Omaha in the same capacity, but with additional responsibilities.

The new manager said she has worked with some wonderful people

and made good friends.

"This was a great opportunity," Pullen said. "I'm fascinated about working in a yard office surrounded by the duties of Transportation, Engineering and Mechanical employees."

She also looked forward to returning to St. Louis where she was born and raised.

Pullen and her husband, Bill, plan to relocate to the greater St. Louis metropolitan area. Seven of her nine siblings, plus many nephews and nieces, live in the area.

Off duty, she enjoys travel, rollerblading and bike riding. Pullen and her husband also enjoy traveling throughout the country and abroad.

"I look forward to working with everyone here at the A&S and mastering my new responsibilities," Pullen said.



Employees welcome Jean Pullen, who is training to become manager-administration.

Remodeling eliminates **RISK**



Jim Shewmaker, foreman, inspects cases of water bottles on a pallet placed in the storage room directly by forklift after a new overhead door was installed near the General Office Building entrance.

A process that required potential at-risk behavior resulted in remodeling to the General Office Building.

The change not only prevents safety risks, but also makes a job much easier. An electric overhead door was installed near the front entrance that requires only the push of a button to open and close.

Cases of water bottles for the office building are stored in a room near the front entrance. Before installation of the door, Mechanical Department employees used a forklift to raise the pallet of water to the top of a bannister on the west side of the front steps. Then, roundhouse laborers carried each case of water individually to the storeroom. It required employees to reach over the bannister to pick them up.

The process was noted on a Total Safety Culture observation card on more than one occasion. At the Critical Five meeting, which includes representatives from the TSC facilitator’s office, union representatives from all crafts and management, Richard Wulff, mechanical superintendent, challenged the Implementation Team to come up with ideas to address this situation. Subsequently, the I-team performed a DOIT process — Define, Observe, Intervene and Test.

The team recommended to management that a garage door be installed on the south wall of the water storage room. The door was installed in May. Now, the forklift can place the entire pallet of water right in the storage room.

The job is done in minutes and potential risk has been decreased. Each case of water weighs 17 pounds.

Once the idea was conceived, the suggestion was presented to Jim Pinkerton, director-track maintenance, who requested corporate Safety Discretionary Funding. The funds were approved and the overhead door installation took less than a week.

“This goes to show that employee-generated ideas really do work as does the TSC process,” said Pete Hoffman, safety coordinator/TSC facilitator. “We appreciate everyone’s involvement in noticing the situation, acting on it and completing the change.”



ABOVE & Beyond

A&S salutes and thanks the following individuals who worked above and beyond assigned duties.

MECHANICAL
Stanley Budde
Mike Gearhart
Mark Strickland

A&S congratulates the following employees for reaching their service anniversaries:

40 YEARS
C.C. Bennett
Willie Douglas
Willie McKenzie

10 YEARS
David Seibert

5 YEARS
Paul Boien
Reginald Manning



Diamond anniversary

The Alton & Southern Railroad Employees Federal Credit Union is celebrating its 75th anniversary.

The credit union was founded in 1936, said Debi Kimball, manager. It was organized by a group of employees to promote thrift among its members, accumulate their savings and create a line of credit for loans.

The savings institution moved into the current building when it opened. The credit union has more than 460 members. Business is going great — sound and stable. Its interest rates are comparable with other area credit unions.

“We’re here to help employees, retirees and their families, but we’re not open to the general public,” Kimball said. “We provide loans, savings accounts, vacation and Christmas clubs, traditional IRAs and sell gift cards. We always encourage new and existing employees to see us about opening an account.”

Traditionally, credit unions have provided lower interest rates than many banks. There are no fees to have an account. There are no penalties for paying off loans earlier or for late loan payments.

Its office has a part-time employee, Liz Wilson.

The credit union has made more than 27,900 loans since it was organized, and loaned more than \$34 million.

Employees have borrowed money for cars, boats,

trailers and signature loans. It provides money for emergencies, an alternative to the payday loan. The institution has many satisfied customers. Employees and others have thanked the organization for providing loans.

The credit union can provide a loan in as little as 24 hours. Having a credit union account helps create a good credit history and credit score.

The credit union is giving a 75th anniversary coffee mug to members to commemorate the event when they come to the office. A gathering with refreshments to observe the anniversary will be scheduled later this year.

“We would like to thank our members for their loyalty and dedication to the credit union,” Kimball said.



Debi Kimball, manager of the Alton & Southern Railroad Employees Federal Credit Union, stands at the office's front counter which is decorated for the institution's 75th anniversary.

From NS to A&S

For Troy Jones, carman, the grass really was greener on the other side.

Jones joined the Norfolk Southern in 1998 in St. Louis as a carman apprentice. When he learned the A&S was hiring, he joined the railroad as a

journeyman in 2002.

His railroad career began when his brother, Taris, worked at the NS as a locomotive engineer, and told him the company was hiring.

Jones served in the Air Force from 1989 to 1992. He worked as a munitions system specialist and achieved the rank of sergeant. He was stationed in England at Lakenheath Air Force Base. Before the railroad, he worked six years as a shipper for a chemical company.

The dedicated employee works as a car inspector on the RIP track. He is the lead carman for a four-employee team performing light repairs on the Runner Track so cars

can be expedited.

Jones enjoys participating in the Total Safety Culture process. He performs observations and encourages other employees to watch out for each other's safety. The safety-conscious carman also enjoys working with his fellow employees.

“I think TSC is great because it keeps everyone focused on safety,” he said. “You’ve got to stay focused on the job at hand to stay safe. That’s the key — no mental vacations.”

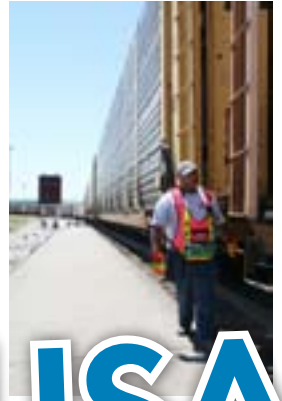
His career is reportable injury free.

Jones resides in Florissant, Mo. He has children Tre, 19, and Devante, 18.

Off duty, the carman enjoys watching sports on television. His favorite sport is football and his favorite team is the St. Louis Rams.



Troy Jones, carman



SAFETY CITY, USA

Like their co-workers in the Engineering, Mechanical, Clerical and other crafts, Transportation employees make safety a way of life.

They do more than follow safety rules. They exercise extra caution in the performance of their duties.

Transportation employees keep their

head in the game. They don't take shortcuts. Conductors and locomotive engineers are not only aware of their surroundings, but know where other trains crews are working.

They do everything in their power to avoid incidents, and they personally care about the safety of others.

FROM LEFT: Jared Hessling, conductor, doubles out a train. Harry Nelson, conductor, protects the point while switching maneuvers are in progress. Denny Sipes, conductor, exercises caution while dismounting a locomotive. Lucious Rogers, conductor, safely pulls pins on cars being humped for classification.

McBride enjoys new career

A conductor who grew up with a railroad track near his back yard is glad he joined the railroad.

"I guess you could say I had a childhood fascination with trains," said Chad McBride, who joined the railroad Nov. 1, 2010. "I work off the Extra Board and doing a different job every day is kind of neat."

Previously, McBride worked more than two years as a technical support specialist for a wireless telephone company. He also attended college and worked part-time in a corrugated box factory. The conductor graduated from Trident Technical College in Charleston, S.C., with an associate degree in business.

His brother, Shawn, also is an A&S conductor. The younger McBride saw the railroad provided a good livelihood for his brother and thought it also would be good for him.

"It's going very well," McBride said. "I like the business, the work and my fellow employees. It's like brothers and sisters working together with a good sense of camaraderie."

One day he may be pulling pins on the hump. The next

day, he may be building outbound trains in the bowl, working as utilityman or serving an industry.

"Staying alert is the key to working safely," he said. "Don't become complacent; anything can happen at any time. Keep your eyes wide open and your head on a swivel."

He resides in Waterloo, Ill., and enjoys time with his girlfriend, Ashley. They attend movies, go out for dinner, visit the park and exercise.

McBride lifts weights in a gym and runs 2 1/4 miles three days each week.

"You've got to stay healthy," he said. "It absolutely helps you with your work. This isn't a job; it's a career."



Chad McBride, conductor

Beware of summer heat

Hydrating your body is vital to your safety.

Drinking water before you are thirsty is paramount to keeping properly hydrated. Avoid caffeinated beverages and consume water.

Sound familiar? It is true. If you know you will be out in the heat, start hydrating your body the day before. You can suffer a heat-related illness when your body is not able to compensate and properly cool itself.

The body normally cools itself by sweating. Under some conditions, sweating just isn't enough. When this happens, the person's body temperature rises rapidly. High body temperatures can damage the brain and other vital organs. There are several factors that affect the body's ability to cool itself during extremely hot weather.

When the humidity is high, sweat will not evaporate as quickly, preventing the body from releasing heat quickly. Some other conditions related to risk factors include age, obesity, fever, dehydration, heart disease, poor circulation, sunburn, prescription drugs and alcohol

use. The elderly and young and also those with chronic illnesses can be more at risk. Healthy young individuals, however, can become ill if they participate in strenuous physical activities during hot weather.

Everyone knows you can have heat cramps. This is a warning sign and you may not have this warning before heat exhaustion or stroke.

Symptoms of heat illness:

Not feeling well
Acting "funny"
Uncomfortably warm
Nausea/vomiting
Fatigue
Muscle cramps
Headache
Walking/talking problems
Irritable
Problems thinking
Dizzy
Confused
Seizures
Over breathing
Loss of consciousness
Body temperature of 105 degrees

Additional risk factors for heat illness:

Dehydration
Antihistamines
Nerve/heart problems
Tranquilizers/antidepressants
Obesity
Alcohol/drugs
Diuretics (water pills)
Deconditioning
Prior heat illness

Prevention of heat stress:

1. Respect when it is hot and humid.
2. Be especially careful if you:
 - a. Do strenuous work or activity.
 - b. Are working near an additional heat source (welding, etc.).
 - c. If you wear protective clothing.
3. Work with a buddy and know symptoms of heat stress.
4. Drink lots of water.
5. Do most "hot work" earlier in the day when it is cooler.
6. Wear a hat and light, white, loose cotton clothes.



Barb Tucker, RN,
occupational health nurse

Employees honor fallen patriots

For many, Memorial Day weekend was a time filled with barbecues, family reunions and sidewalk sales.

For others, however, including A&S employees, Memorial Day was observed to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedoms and way of life. Throughout the nation, millions of Americans bowed their heads that sacred Monday in respect for the multitude of men and women who died while serving our country.

With the Fourth of July approaching, it may be good to remember what one veteran said: "Every day should be Memorial Day to thank those who have given their lives to

The Land of the Free.....

Alton & Southern Railway Remembers!

.....Because of the Brave.

ensure us of the things we have."

As part of their reverence for departed veterans and others, A&S employees placed a 16-foot by 4-foot flag at the entrance to the railroad. It was displayed from Friday, May 27 through Tuesday, May 31.

Already missed

Fellow employees, friends and others gathered at the car shop lunchroom to wish a fond farewell and the best of luck to Cornelius C. Bennett, car foreman, who retired May 31.

Known as “C.C.” to all at the A&S, he joined the St. Louis Southwestern Railway in its car department in 1971. When furloughed from that railroad, he joined the A&S as a carman in 1987.

He was promoted to car foreman in 1988.

The dedicated and safety-conscious employee was well-liked by all, and known for his good sense of humor. Bennett also was known for a familiar saying he used. Whenever the need arose for a hot move, he would quip, “I will put it on the list.”



A rousing round of applause breaks out as C.C. Bennett, retiring car foreman, receives a congratulatory handshake from Mike McCarthy, general manager.

Continuous improvement

A former district safety officer for the Missouri Department of Transportation finds that railroad duties test his abilities.

“It’s going well,” said Sterling Winters, manager-yard operations. “I like the work because it is fast-paced; every day is different and it presents various challenges that keep the job interesting.”

Winters works in the Operations Tower and handles duties on the ground. He graduated from Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, Mo., with a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice.

He joined the railroad in 2005 as a officer management trainee in St. Louis after five years with MODOT. He knew the railroad by reputation and that it offered opportunities for advancement. As a trainee, he studied in Salt Lake City and Omaha which gave him an overall picture of the railroad.

Winters learned about Mechanical and Engineering operations in addition to Transportation.

In the tower, he communicates with UP about train

movements in and out of the yard, and communicates with all the connecting railroads. A safety meeting at the start of each shift sets the tone for the day and gives employees the right mindset to do their jobs safely.

Winters most enjoys trying to perform his duties better each day. He appreciates the hard work of all employees from the various crafts. It takes good cooperation, communication and coordination with them to do his job.

Winters resides in Florissant, Mo. He has a daughter, Vanessa, 2, and spends as much time with her as possible. They enjoy strolls in the park and playing together. He also enjoys fishing.



Sterling Winters, manager-yard operations

MECHANICAL UPDATE

The Mechanical Department has hired three new carmen and will hire five more.

Two of the carmen are still in training. The department also plans to add one sheet metal worker and laborer.

Mechanical employees can expect the transfer of Craig Stanley, laborer, to carman/toolman. Jason Hamby is also in training to become a laborer.

“With regard to Continuous Improvement, the forecast for A&S car volumes is robust and we want to meet that challenge,” said Richard Wulff, mechanical superintendent. “We want to make sure we have the best processes in place to meet demand, and the employees are the ones who know best how to do that.”

“I am really proud of all the Mechanical employees for stepping up to the plate and helping us with this process.”

Other Mechanical developments include the ordering of three new pickup trucks. A new trailer has been purchased for the RIP Track and the department plans to buy another.

Good mix of duties

Thomas Williams' career as an A&S patrolman began after his father showed him an advertisement for the job.

"I love working here," Williams said. "The people really make the job more enjoyable — not just the people I work with, but all the employees."

The patrolman said the A&S has treated him well. It's provided a good livelihood. He also has a great boss.

Williams joined the railroad in 2008. Previously, he worked six years as a police officer in Centreville, Ill. The patrolman has been a police officer since 2000.

He graduated from Belleville Area College in 1999 with an associate of arts degree. The law enforcement officer then graduated from the BAC Police Academy. He also graduated, while working full time, from Greenville College in Greenville, Ill., with a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership. The railroader plans to graduate in December from Fontbonne University in Bridgeton, Mo., with a master's degree in business management.

His job is a good mix of railroad duties and law enforcement tasks. Not only does he check railcars for integrity, but he is also on the lookout for trespassers for their own safety, the safety of employees and the public. It breaks up the day into interesting segments.

Safety is the most important concern on the railroad, Williams said. Everyone needs to stay diligent in their duties, and report any suspicious activities. Employees should be on the lookout for anything that seems out of the ordinary



Thomas Williams, patrolman

such as people who should not be on the property, vehicles, or something that looks like it doesn't belong on a railcar.

He resides in O'Fallon, Ill. Off duty, he studies and tries to stay physically fit. He lifts weights and performs cardiovascular exercises.

"I'm in way better shape now than I was three years ago," Williams said. "The gym membership provided by the railroad is a great benefit."

This is the second in a series of stories profiling members of the Alton & Southern Police Department.

Employee's awareness stops potential crime

It began as a typical day.

Larry Stuart, claims manager, was on his way to work. He was driving over a UP railroad overpass, looked down and saw a pickup truck parked beside the main line.

The beat-up truck seemed out of place, and there were no other company vehicles or employees in the area. The claims manager also saw an individual near the truck. The man was not wearing standard railroad PPE.

Stuart telephoned Gary Lottmann, A&S police chief, and asked him to contact UP police to check into the situation.

Because railroads have been on a heightened state of awareness from terroristic threats, he returned to the overpass hoping to get a license plate number or other information. Using binoculars, he observed the perpetrator dragging a heavy metal plate across the tracks toward the pickup. When the individual saw Stuart watching him, he stopped what he was doing and fled the scene.

When the A&S employee saw an

Illinois state trooper on a motorcycle, he asked for his assistance. They noticed the subject's pickup exiting the area, and he was stopped by the trooper. The officer called and waited for Union Pacific Police, which took jurisdiction of the event. A&S Patrolman Terry Goodwin, and UP senior special agents John Clemons and Rick Davis responded to the incident.

A&S employees have been asked to remain aware of any suspicious activity. Lottmann praised Stuart for his awareness.

"Any one of our employees would have done the same thing," Stuart said.



Larry Stuart, claims manager

TIDBITS

BIRTHS

Congratulations!

Joshua Gregory, conductor, and his wife, Jessica, became proud parents of Jakson Andrew May 28. He weighed 9 pounds and measured 21 inches long. Jakson, his mother and father are doing great.

Congratulations also go to Shawn McBride, conductor, who welcomed

his daughter, Korryn Mae Ann McBride, into the world at 9:25 a.m. May 23. She weighed 6 pounds 15 ounces and measured 20 inches long. Shawn tells us the baby's mother, Brittney, and Korryn are fine.



Korryn Mae Ann McBride



Elliot Cooper Robinson

Congratulations to Brent Robinson, conductor, and his wife, Shawna, on the birth of a son. Elliot Cooper Robinson was born April 8.

He weighed 9 pounds 7 ounces and measured 20 inches long. The child was welcomed home by his older brother, Drew, and big sister, Abby.

RETIREMENT

Best wishes and good luck to Ed Angel, Engineering Department machine operator, who retired May 26 with 39 years service.

GRADUATION

Congratulations to the granddaughter of Donna Wilson, clerk. Brenna Rae Anderson graduated from Belleville East High School May 24. The graduate plans to attend Arizona State University in the fall.



Tany Anderson, left, with daughter Brenna Rae



Perry Johnson, carman, and son, Corey

PROUD PAPA

Perry Johnson, carman, beams when he talks about his son, Corey.

Corey recently graduated from Webster University with a master's degree in environmental management. He graduated from Culver Stockton College with a bachelor's degree in biology.

The outstanding student has joined UP as an environmental manager in Proviso, Utah. He also serves in the Army National Guard as a sergeant with the military police. The veteran was deployed to the war in Iraq from 2008 to 2009.

Additionally, Corey is an excellent athlete. He played college football from 2002 through 2006.

NEW EMPLOYEES WELCOMED

Classroom training has begun for eight new switchmen/brakemen.

They are eager to learn about safety, rules and how to perform their duties. One of the new employees, Zachary Grimont, is a third-generation A&S railroader.

When they begin on-the-job training, they will work with experienced employees who reinforce the classroom studies. They also demonstrate the safe, correct and efficient ways to perform their duties.

Each is expected to succeed and become a qualified conductor.



LEFT: From left, Bryon Whaley, Travis Duff, Kevin Watts and Robert Hoff
BELOW: From left, Zachary Grimont, Steve Clifton, Everett Anderson and John Brewster





Chronicle

This newsletter appears under direction of the superintendent. For news coverage, contact Randy at the newsletter office by phone at 402-475-6397, fax 402-475-6398, mail information to 1845 S. 11th St., Lincoln, NE 68502-2211, or e-mail randy@newslink.com. This material is intended to be an overview of A&S Railway news. If there are any discrepancies between this newsletter and any collective bargaining process, insurance contracts or other official documents, those documents will govern. A&S continues to maintain and reserves the right, at any time, to alter, suspend, discontinue or terminate all plans and programs described in this newsletter. This newsletter is not an employment contract or any type of employment guarantee. Any photo submitted may be used. Anyone who submits a photo retains all rights to the image. However, by submission you give the newsletter permission to use your photo(s) in all related media. Thanks to everyone at Alton & Southern for contributing to the newsletter.



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Let there be light

All 32 light fixtures in the car shop and roundhouse work areas are being replaced.

The new lights are more efficient and have nearly double the output of the old ones. Jeff Pratt, signal foreman, and Adrian Abernathy, signalman, have been working on the project.

They started in May and will finish in June. Changing the light fixtures requires the use of the two-man lift which can reach the building's high ceiling. The project requires new conduit, wiring and ballasts.

The new fixtures have Musco lights, the same ones used to illuminate the yard. The old lights were mercury vapor bulbs. All 64 of them will be removed.

Fall protection was necessary when using the two-man scissor lift. It reaches 35 feet from the floor.



Adrian Abernathy, signalman, watches his co-worker on the scissor lift while feeding wire to him as new lights are installed.



Jeff Pratt, signal foreman, works high atop the scissor lift to install new lighting in the car shop and roundhouse work areas.

