Conrail strives to not only set the bar for safety and service performance, but to also recognize employees for their contributions toward Conrail’s success. Conrail believes it’s important that employees realize their hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed. The company hosts recognition events as a way of thanking their employees and families for their commitment and devotion to the railroad. In June, employees and their families were invited to attend the 2019 Conrail Family Picnic hosted at Frogbridge Day Camp in Millstone, NJ.

Every one of the 600 people in attendance received a 20th Anniversary t-shirt and all children received a 20th anniversary lunch bag and a deck of cards. Employees received a Conrail pint glass.

The venue provided various activities and games for all ages. Families enjoyed the day swimming, playing miniature golf, kayaking, playing tennis, basketball, and riding bumper and paddle boats. There were also a handful of games and friendly competitions hosted every hour by the event staff. The picnic was fully catered and a DJ provided musical entertainment throughout the day.

Employees also had the chance to win one of the many items raffled off throughout the day; the grand prizes were a Yeti Cooler and a smokeless grill.

We hope everyone who was able to make it had a great time and we encourage everyone to join us next year.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been 20 years since the formation of Conrail Shared Assets, and it is truly a pleasure and an honor to celebrate this milestone with each of you. No matter how long you have been a part of the Conrail family, your experience and dedication has contributed to our success.

Our success is measured by our core values - being committed to developing our people, minimizing exposure to risk, providing excellent service to our customers, being more productive with our assets, and creating initiatives that promote process improvement.

People are our most important asset. In my field visits to our employees and our customer facilities, I am impressed not only by the dedication of the Conrail employees who operate and maintain our railroad, but also by the employees of our customers who are so dependent on the services we provide. Your commitment to service excellence provides not only for your families, but also for the livelihood of the families of our customers in the geographic areas that we serve.

Our future success will be governed by the dedication and teamwork of a new generation of railroaders who share a common commitment with their coworkers to support our core values and to produce the highest quality of service for our customers.

Together, with a commitment to our core values, we can achieve the next 20 years of success.

Timothy C. Tierney
President and Chief Operating Officer

Long-Time Union Representatives Retire

Richie distinguished himself by serving the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers as a member of its General Committee where he was highly respected by the men in the craft as well as Conrail management.

“Buzzy” also used his leadership and organizational skills in service to his fellow dispatchers, serving as both a Local and General Chairperson. He leaves Conrail a legacy of leadership, service, and friendship.

The service these men provided to their fellow employees as Union Representatives is commendable and all of us at Conrail wish them a long, happy, healthy and well deserved retirement.

On the occasion of their retirements Conrail would like to congratulate two employees who had exemplary careers, but also served as long-time union representatives, Engineer Richard A. Vogt Jr., 41 years of dedicated service, and B. J. “Buzzy” Wood for 30 years of distinguished service.

Richie came to Conrail in July of 1978 as a trainee in engine service (Fireman) and attended Conrail’s Locomotive Engineer Training program at the Wilmington Heavy Electric Shops. Except for some brief stints on the road to destinations like Enola and Potomac Yard, Richie spent the preponderance of his career in the South Jersey area working out of Pavonia.

“Buzzy” began his career in the Track Department working in a variety of jobs including Welder, Brushcutter, Backhoe Operator and I&R Foreman. He eventually chose to become a Train Dispatcher, where he worked for several years before accepting a promotion into supervisory ranks. He worked as both a Trainmaster and a Track Supervisor.
Chrysler has announced a $5.4 billion expansion to their Jefferson North Assembly plant in Detroit. The plant expansion is expected to more than double rail traffic from the facility. The expansion tentatively includes installation of a vehicle tunnel under the Terminal East I.T. to move finished vehicles from the plant to the loading area and building a pedestrian bridge from a new parking area to the plants. Conrail is also currently engaged in talks with the City of Detroit on a 7 acre land sale to consolidate parcels on the east side of the plant. Good communication has been essential to the planning and execution of Chrysler’s needs from multiple groups in Conrail including; Detroit Transportation, Engineering, Real Estate, and Legal.

Shuert Technologies, LLC is a vertically integrated, design, tooling, and manufacturing company, that began doing business with the railroad in 1971. Located in northeast Metropolitan Detroit, Michigan, Shuert has access to all forms of transportation. What began as a small tooling business in 1971, is now a 20 acre campus with a 340,000 square foot facility with design, tooling, manufacturing and warehousing functions. Today Shuert is a 5 day per week customer with Conrail and in 2018 they received 189 car loads of product.

Shuert worked closely with the leaders in the industries they believed had the greatest need for returnable and reusable packaging. “We had already recognized the necessity and value of reusable and recyclable devices where traditionally ‘limited use’, disposable and non-recyclable products were currently used,” said Shuert Rail Supervisor Sharon Hammond.

In more recent years, what was once deliberate growth has led to rapid growth as user awareness has increased, and the tangible rewards of reusable and recyclable packaging became apparent to a more informed consumer. Shuert has continued to demonstrate the ability to combine, design and twin sheet thermoforming technologies into unique, cost effective, reusable shipping, storage, and material handling devices for a wide range of applications.

Conrail’s FD27 serves the busy automotive corridor on Detroit’s east side. The daily afternoon job services Warren Truck Assembly Plant a.k.a. “Dodge City”. Dodge City produces the Ram 1500 Classic and Conrail is involved from start to finish. FD27 places inbound frames from Mexico to feed the assembly line and handles finished vehicles, body panels bound for Mexico, and scrap steel coming out of the plant.

The crew of the FD27 is veteran locomotive engineer Bill Boonstra and conductor Tony Salvatore. Both take pride in the job they do and show an attention to detail. “It’s a very important job to the railroad,” said conductor Tony Salvatore. “We move a lot of cars.”
Recently, Conrail completed the construction of two new siding tracks along the Millstone Industrial Track between the Jersey Avenue and Somerset Street at-grade crossings in New Brunswick, New Jersey. The North Siding measures 1,550 feet and the South Siding measures 900 feet from clearance point to clearance point. Construction of these sidings, which was paid for by New Jersey Transit, permitted relocation of Conrail’s freight operations at County Yard on Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor to Conrail’s Millstone Industrial Track. New Jersey Transit acquired rights from Amtrak at County Yard as part of their project to make improvements along the Northeast Corridor, and to improve their operations and develop a resiliency storage area for equipment during heightened storm events. The new sidings will support Conrail operations when servicing customers on the Millstone I.T., Heidi Lead, and Delco Lead. ANS Plastics and Heidi Lead customer sidetrack turnouts were within the project limits and were both upgraded as a part of the project.

On March 16, 2019, as JR2 was shoving to a spot in Dockside 2, electrician Robert Youngblood, a 30-year employee, noticed the derailed moving train. Thinking fast, he was able to communicate what was happening and had the move stopped. By being aware of his surroundings and acting quickly, Robert was able to prevent this situation from becoming significantly worse. Nice job, Robert!

The building located at 405 Division Street in Elizabeth was built in 1951 and originally served as a transfer station for the Central Railroad of New Jersey’s Elizabethport Yard. Conrail has occupied this site since 1976, and until the late 1980’s it served as a Division office for Conrail, including a train dispatching office for the former New Jersey Division. It is currently the headquarters for Conrail’s North Jersey Engineering departments.

Upon termination of the 1999 lease agreement between Conrail and CSX, Conrail will vacate this location and purchase two new modular facilities and one shop facility. The Track and Design & Construction departments will relocate to Port Reading Yard, and Bridges & Buildings and Communications departments will relocate to Oak Island Yard. These moves are expected to be completed by the end of 2019.
Conrail Hosts the Spring 2019 Northeast Operating Rules Advisory Committee (NORAC) Semi-Annual Meeting

The NORAC Operating Rules were created and adopted by a group of northeastern railroads in the mid-to-late 1980’s. Conrail continues to use the NORAC Operating Rules due to our location in the northeast and the interface we have with many other NORAC Member Railroads (SEPTA, AMTRAK, NJT, et cetera). The committee consists of railroads ranging in size from Class I to short lines who meet twice a year to formally vote on additions, deletions, and modifications to the rules. The committee consists of approximately 30 representatives from the various member railroads, and three officers who are selected by their fellow NORAC representatives. Every representative that attends these meetings provides invaluable input to help make the rules as clear and efficient as possible. No matter the position, each NORAC representative from the participating railroads is a volunteer. They have chosen to take on the responsibilities of the committee in addition to their primary job assignments.

Conrail Locomotive Preventative Maintenance

ERIC LEVIN | Chief Engineer

Effective October of 2018 Conrail’s Oak Island and Pavonia Locomotive Shops began doing all 92 and 184 day Preventative Maintenance inspections on Conrail’s assigned locomotive fleet.

Prior practice was for locomotives to travel to CSX or NS system shops to have this FRA mandated work performed. Conrail conducted a study which revealed typically a locomotive would spend a total of four weeks a year in non-productive time traveling back and forth from PM shop to Conrail assignment. Conrail shops now typically produce a PM in 24 hours or less.

The ability to perform PM’s in-house has immediately increased locomotive availability, and has allowed Conrail to operate with a smaller locomotive fleet as well as minimize locomotive handlings.

As of May 2019 Oak Island has completed 43 PM’s and Pavonia has completed 42 PM’s year to date. In addition to enhanced locomotive utilization Conrail’s locomotive group can plan their work more efficiently, and our locomotive shop people enjoy a sense of owning their work product while enhancing their skills in locomotive repair and maintenance.

Success Through Teamwork - Conrail and Exxon Mobil

JOHN HIGGINS | South Jersey Terminal Superintendent

Exxon Mobil in Paulsboro, NJ achieved 100% success rate for their corporate measured goals for the month of April. This measurement includes product accuracy and on time performance to fulfill Exxon Mobil customer orders to some of the biggest car/manufacturing companies in North America. Conrail’s Paulsboro crew, Engineer Keith Fee and Conductor Perry Bascou, work closely with Exxon Mobil Rail Logistics Team to make the successes of both Exxon Mobil and Conrail a seamless process. Conrail would like to thank all of our team members that play a part in this success and keep up the great work!
DETROIT
Jake Abraham, Conductor, 5 years of service
Michael Ansama, Conductor, 5 years of service
Leah Derby, Engineer, 5 years of service
John Hazinski, Conductor, 5 years of service
Adisson Willford, Conductor, 5 years of service
Robert Collop, Area RFE-Rules Examiner, 20 years of service
Roberto Nunez, Carman, 20 years of service
Michael Unger, Yardmaster, 20 years of service
William Wicker, Engineer, 20 years of service
William Widrig, Car Inspector, 20 years of service
Eric Zielinski, Asst. Trainmaster, 20 years of service
Joseph Price, General Foreman, 20 years of service
Kory Johnson, Terminal Superintendent, 25 years of service

MTL/PHL
Ian Ferguson, Train Dispatcher, 5 years of service
Michael Lake, Staff Accountant, 5 years of service
Christopher Reeder, IT Technician, 5 years of service
Larry Henshaw, Project Engineer, 10 years of service

NORTH JERSEY
Diego Ypanaque, Carman, 5 years of service
John Gonsiewski, Conductor, 20 years of service
Anthony Gurley, Conductor, 20 years of service
Kevin Hayes, Wreckmaster, 20 years of service
Donald Jackson, Carman, 20 years of service
Brian Robinson, Conductor, 20 years of service
Philip Smith, Engineer, 20 years of service
Arthur Anderson, Machinist, 25 years of service
Douglas Robertson, Senior Trainmaster, 30 years of service
Ronald Roman, Welder Foreman, 40 years of service

James Angley, Conductor, 5 years of service
Anthony Brown, Conductor, 5 years of service
Tyler Cook, Management Trainee, 5 years of service
Jennifer Cunha, Secretary/Admin Assistant, 5 years of service
Silverio Mendoza, Stevedore, 5 years of service

SOUTH JERSEY
James Mcdermott, C&S Maintainer, 5 years of service
Michael Brennan, Transportation Supervisor, 5 Years of service
Eric Davis, Conductor, 5 years of service
Patrick Durso, Carman, 5 years of service
Matthew Mccloskey, Car Inspector, 5 years of service
Roberto Osorio, Carman, 5 years of service
Ronald Rizzi, Foreman, 5 years of service
Kenneth Browning, Electrician, 5 years of service
Gregory Bishop, Engineer, 20 years of service
Brian Flynn, Engineer, 20 years of service
Charles Fredericksdorf, Yardmaster, 25 years of service
Lawrence Jackson, Engineer, 25 years of service
John Shipp, Engineer, 25 years of service
Tracy Tanner, Track Supervisor, 30 years of service
George Blaszko, Material Foreman, 50 years of service

Injury Free
April - June 2019
Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day 2019

WILLIAM JUDGE | Director of Human Resources and Pensions

On April 25, 2019, Conrail along with countless other businesses and corporations took part in the Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day. Designed to be more than a career day, the Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work program goes beyond the average practice of “shadowing” an adult. Exposing girls and boys to what a parent or mentor in their lives does during the work day is important.

Showing them the value of their education, and helping them discover the power and possibilities associated with a balanced work and family life is important. Providing them an opportunity to share how they envision the future, and allowing them to begin steps toward their end goals in a hands-on and interactive environment is also key to their success.

Mt. Laurel employees were invited to bring their children with them to work and enjoy a fun packed day hosted by the Human Resource Department. The day began with each child receiving their own Conrail ID badge, followed by speeches and presentations from various departments explaining the variety of jobs and responsibilities on the railroad. The children were then given a tour of the various work areas.

Joe Caccamo, Manager of Hazardous Materials and Environmental Safety alongside volunteers from the emergency response and environmental remediation company, Hepaco, entertained the children with hands on activities and a wealth of safety information. The children were able to see the tools used to identify hazardous materials and some of the ways in which they are handled.

Once the visitors enjoyed some hands on fun outside, they took a virtual train ride with Brian Baginski, Manager of Operating Rules and Regulatory Compliance, using the state of the art PTC simulators. When each group finished operating the simulator they went to visit Dispatcher Buzzy Wood, who was prepared for his visitors with bags of candy at the ready. The children couldn’t ask Wood enough questions before it was time to move on to the next event.

To conclude the day the children were tasked with a one of a kind escape room. Once they were able to decipher all the codes and escape the room they were rewarded with their own Conrail backpack, ice cream and candy treats.

We would like to thank everyone who helped make this year’s Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day a great success, but most importantly our guests who came and spent the day with us.

Life-Saving Training in the Workplace

KATHY DURSO | Executive Assistant

Every year, First Aid/CPR/AED training is offered company-wide, and many of our employees take advantage of the opportunity to be educated in proper life-saving techniques. This spring, thanks to the instructors at Team Life, 37 employees in North Jersey, 53 employees in Mount Laurel/South Jersey/Philadelphia, and 33 employees in Detroit were certified in First Aid/CPR and AED procedures. Certifications are good for two years.

Emergencies can happen at any time and any place, and we encourage all our employees to take the time to learn these valuable skills. Additional classes will be scheduled this fall, and anyone interested in attending should send an email to kathy.durso@conrail.com.
Railroads across the country are promoting grade crossing safety
And now you can too!

Become an Operation Lifesaver Volunteer and promote railroad safety
to your local:

- Schools
- Scout Troops
- Community Groups
- Churches
- Youth Organizations

To become an authorized volunteer, visit: www.oli.org

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!