



# THE WHEEL

## The Transportation Club of Houston Newsletter



Communications  
Danny Schnautz

February 2008

Executive Secretary  
Russell Powell

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### *From the Prez...*

FEBRUARY IS HERE!

While others in our nation dig out from blankets of snow, we here in Houston experience weather ranging from Spring-like to near-Spring-like.

We have been reminded recently though of the awesome power of the weather. Airplane pilots, perhaps more than others, appreciate the way that weather can affect our lives. But all of us have seen this recently in the wake of the tornadoes and other storms across America already this year - storms which have claimed dozens of lives.

Once again, transportation was the first step toward rescue and recovery. Each part of our nation's emergency response counts directly & indirectly on wheels, wings, hulls, and rails. Sometimes what we each do seems to be a little less than vital, but we can look all around us to see how essential our duties can be.

Part of working in transportation is 'getting the word out.' National Transportation Week is May 11-17 this year, and we here in Houston have some grand plans. Look for the info and plan to participate. All Americans depend on transportation, whether they know it or not. *Cool.*

Danny

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### *TCH Event Recap*

#### FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

BRENNAN'S was the site for the TCH February luncheon. Our featured speakers were Special Agents Ron Kruger and Ernest Payton of the Department of Homeland Security, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement, currently assigned to the Arms and Strategic Technologies Investigations. That is the DHS, ICE, ASTI.

These two Special Agents spoke on the role that we as transportation workers have in America's security - including a surprising request of how to handle suspicious activity. They reminded the crowd that the laws are in place to protect us. At

the end of their multi-media presentation, they gave out door prizes to the crowd, and presented the TCH President and Speaker Committee Chair (Rebecca Taylor) special DHS mementos.

Also at the luncheon, Texas State Representative Robert Talton (District 144), also the Honorary Chairman for NTW Houston 2008, was present. Other special guests included representatives from area colleges, as well as past Houston Councilwoman Shelley Sekula-Gibbs

Other program highlights were:

- Invocation & US pledge by Father Rivers Patout
- NTW update from TCH President
- Recognition of current board and officers in attendance,
- As well as Past presidents & students in attendance

#### **FEBRUARY LUNCHEON SPONSOR:**

**FED EX**

#### **DOOR PRIZE DONORS:**

**CLARK FREIGHT LINES -**

Rockets & Aeros Tickets

**EURO-HUB INTERNATIONAL -**

Brennan's Gift Certificate

**EXCARGO SERVICES**

Rockets tickets

**Thank you** to our sponsors, & congratulations to our winners!

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## TCH

*We Move Houston!*

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### *TCH Golf Shirts on Sale*

TCH golf shirts are now for sale online and at the luncheons! There is a wide variety of styles and colors available in many sizes. Each will be embroidered with the "TCH We Move Houston" logo on the left sleeve. Prices range from \$19.36 to \$33.54 each. [www.transclubhou.org](http://www.transclubhou.org)

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This issue of "The Wheel" is brought to you by -

## Robert Talton,

Candidate for U.S. Congress, TX District 22

Remember to vote in the March 4th Primary. Early Voting is February 19-29.

Please contact your friends and associates in CD22 to ask them to support a conservative leader you can trust:

Robert Talton for Congress. Secure donations are greatly appreciated at

[www.taltonforcongress.com](http://www.taltonforcongress.com)

*Paid for by Talton for Congress Committee, Bryan F. Clark, Treasurer, P.O. Box 34492, Houston, TX 77234-4492 (281) 500-6023*

### Upcoming TCH Events - AROUND THE CORNER!

The next TCH luncheon is at **Brady's Landing** on Houston's east side on April 5 at 11:30. The speaker will be **Jerry Woodfill**, giving a riveting first-hand account of the Apollo 13 rescue (as portrayed in the 1995 Tom Hanks movie). Details of the luncheon are available online at [www.transclubhou.org](http://www.transclubhou.org).

The **MARCH LUNCHEON** will NOT be held in order to show support for the DOT Seminar to be held here in Houston on March 4 & 5 (see additional information, below). We encourage our members and attendees to attend this **FREE seminar** which we are fortunate to have right here in Houston!

#### TCH at the HOUSTON AEROS!

**Friday, March 7** is the day to join TCH at the **Houston Aeros** where the Hartford Wolf Pack will fall to our mighty kings of the ice!

We are limited to 50 tickets at this time and as game date nears we will release extra tickets back to the Aeros.

Tickets are center ice and are \$25 each. We need sponsorships to help make this event a success.

#### SPONSORSHIPS:

PLATINUM: \$375 (includes 4 admissions)

GOLD: \$250 (includes 2 admissions)

SILVER: \$150 BRONZE: \$50

Sponsors will have their name displayed on the club web page, email notifications, and in The Wheel.

**See you at the game. Be ready to scream your face off!** (That's what the Aeros say!)

### TCH at the SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK!

Saturday, April 5 will find many TCH members at the park ([www.shrp.com](http://www.shrp.com)) for a fun night for the Connally Breeders' Cup Turf Festival. Arrive as early as 5:30 for a 7:00 start, and the fun lasts til 11:00pm. Cost is \$35 per person, and corporate sponsors are needed:

Platinum: \$250 Gold: \$200  
Silver: \$100 Bronze: \$50

**We must have early RSVPs to fill the spots or we must release the venue.** TCH will have our own private room with food and fun. See you there!

The TCH **SPRING GOLF TOURNAMENT & AWARDS DINNER** will be held on March 27, with a 1 pm shotgun start. TCH Vice-President Deborah Butler, Matt Stoker, and the rest of the golf committee have plans are for a beautiful day. TCH will be returning to Longwood for another great event. Plan to sponsor, plan to play!

The **SPRING EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR** has had a change. New plans underway by the education committee.

TCH will be at the **HOUSTON ASTROS** on the Coke Deck for a private party on Tuesday, July 22. This is a popular event for TCH & is limited to 50 participants. Sponsors are needed; see web page for details.

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION WEEK** is May 11-17 and help is needed for the school poster/essay contest and other events. All area clubs have been invited to participate in various events. See more info in this newsletter.

## TCH

*We Move Houston!*

### TCH website opens "MEMBERS ONLY" section

Check out your club web page for the new MEMBERS ONLY section, launched in January. The entry point is at the bottom right corner of the home page ("Members Only"). Check out the discounts from vendors that will help you and your business with chiropractor, office supply & printing, and car rental discounts. **MORE VENDORS ARE NEEDED!** If you know a vendor, or if your company can provide discounted services to TCH members, contact us. More information has been released to TCH members via an email from the Executive Secretary.

### **2007-2008 TCH Membership Roster at Printer**

Your new Club Membership Roster is at the printer and will be in your hands soon. You can still:

1. **Update** your contact information to the club office;
2. **Advertise** in the Wheel or on the web page with an ad;
3. **Advertise** in the online SERVICE DIRECTORY

Details are online and are available from the club office or president.

### **TCH Mugs on Sale**

Your TCH board purchased some wonderful custom glass TCH-logoed mugs late last Fall and they are almost gone through quick sales.

The first night of availability was the October board meeting and everyone present purchased a mug. At the November board meeting, most did additional purchases to get to a full set! More have been sold at the luncheons since then right up through February. A reorder is not certain at this point. If you are interested in a set, please email the club president or the club office so that we can make a repurchase decision. *See a mugshot online!*

These heavy glass mugs are \$10 each, or a set of 4 for \$30. They make great desk-top holders for mints & pens, in addition to being a great coffee mug. Mugs will be available for purchase at our luncheons as well.

*Testimonial From Mayor Bill White's office:* "We love the mugs and use them every day!"

### **US DOT Hazmat Workshop in Houston**

At: Houston, TX MARCH 4 & 5 at Marriott Hotel Hobby Airport (DOT has changed the date & location).

"Whether you are new to hazmat transportation or a seasoned professional, breakout sessions are presented to increase your knowledge for the safe and secure transportation of hazmat. Each seminar begins with a General Session that provides overviews of the Department of Transportation's Hazardous Materials Program and what to expect during the seminar. The remainder of the two-day seminar consists of Concurrent Breakout Sessions. Sessions are organized and scheduled into three different tracks. You can follow a specific track or you can attend only those sessions that best meet

your needs. Each session is offered twice to help you maximize your seminar experience."

For details, go to:

<http://hazmat.dot.gov/training/training.htm>

### **NTW Houston 2008**

We are proud to confirm that the **Texas Representative of District 144 Robert Talton is our Honorary Chairman for NTW Houston 2008!**

Representative Talton was a guest speaker at our December luncheon and is a friend of transportation. In addition, the City of Houston, State of Texas, and Harris County are issuing proclamations for the week. Thanks to Mayor White, Representative Talton, and County Judge Ed Emmett, respectively, for this recognition. Activities are being planned by a large collection of Houston-area transportation clubs.

NTW is a national week of recognition as declared by Congress that originated in Houston in 1953. This year the dates are May 11 - 17 and events across the country will take place that week. The official NTW web site is [www.ntweek.org](http://www.ntweek.org). Transportation Clubs International helps with NTW recognition; info for events across America is at ([www.transportationclubsinternational.com](http://www.transportationclubsinternational.com)).

Transportation workers include truckdrivers, pilots, ship captains, and railroad engineers, but also dispatchers, forklift operators, shipping clerks, sales reps, maintenance crews, and so many more.

On Monday, February 4, leaders from ten Houston-area transportation clubs met at the TCH board room for the **NTW Houston 2008 Kickoff Meeting** (photo at TCH online). Supper was provided by Clark Freight Lines. The two-hour meeting led to productive discussions and agreements. **Events confirmed so far include:**

**Monday, May 12: Golf Outing with HACA**

**Thursday, May 15: All-club luncheon with NDTA**

**Friday, May 16: MV Sam Houston Cruise with ETA.**

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Poster Contest at local schools by TCH**

Other events are in planning, including two road rallies with ITMA and a very special evening reception by TCH. Keep an eye on the TCH web page for more information.

YOU can do some good by taking the message of transportation to the public around you, and supporting all of these planned NTW events!

# **TCH**

***We Move Houston!***



### ***Travel Safely With the DOT***

Aubrey Campbell of the USDOT reminds you that there are safer ways to travel! Go to:

<http://safetravel.dot.gov/>

for tips to make your travel easier & less stressful.

### ***WHEEL Wins National TCI Award***

At the 2007 TCI conference in Seattle, your TCH newsletter won **2<sup>nd</sup> place in the nation** for clubs of our size. This continues a tradition of winning for *The Wheel*, including "Best of Show" for 2000 - '01. See [www.transportationclubsinternational.com](http://www.transportationclubsinternational.com).

A full write-up from TCH Past President Bob Clark's trip to the TCI conference is at TCH online under the INDUSTRY NEWS link.

### ***Congratulations to TCH Director Jamie Joiner***

TCH Director Jamie Joiner made partner at her law firm, Baker Hostetler, in January of this year. Jamie is a great part of our club leadership.

### ***TCH Mission Statement***

"To serve its membership as a premier organization to cultivate relations among professionals in the transportation, distribution, and logistics industries. To achieve this mission, the Transportation Club of Houston endeavors to stimulate public and commercial interest in understanding the transportation industry."

### ***Nominations Being Accepted for 2008-2009 Board***

Nominations are being accepted for the 2008-2009 slate of TCH officers and directors. Please contact your club office or President for information.

**You** can be a great part of the future of TCH. Your leadership skills will be developed, and you and your company will be part of some of the greatest things in Houston's transportation scene.

### ***Pride***

Temper gets you into trouble,

Pride keeps you there. ~*The Best of Bits & Pieces*

"God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."  
*James 4:6*

### ***TCH outside of Houston!***

TCH was represented at the Sabine District Transportation Club's (SDTC) February 12

induction of new officers by TCH President and First Lady Danny & Celessa Schnautz. Four representatives from TCI were also present for the ceremonies in Beaumont. TCH mugs (donated by Clark Freight Lines) were presented to outgoing President Ronnie Hicks (Port of Port Arthur) and incoming President Danny Phillips (Burriss Transfer) in the spirit of inter-club unity and well-wishes for the year past and the year ahead. Photos are online at [www.transclubhou.org](http://www.transclubhou.org) under the "Other Area Events" in the right sidebar.

### ***Be a Sponsor!***

TCH has many sponsorship opportunities - to bring business-earning exposure for your company, and for you. You can sponsor this newsletter, a 'mail-out' meeting reminder card, a golf outing, a luncheon, a seminar, or the web page (note the new banner ads). Look on the web page or email the club office or President for information.

*-Upcoming luncheon sponsors include -*

**Fed Ex: April**  
**Clark Freight Lines: June**

## ***Don't forget to Vote!***

### ***New Members for February***

- Lou Hughes, Jr. - Fed Ex Services
- Peter Van Etten - The Dixie Group
- Michael Briscoe - AIRDEX
- Don Adams - Adams Logistics
- Towana Bryant - Trinity Freight Services
- Melissa Pfitzer - Central Freight Lines
- Susan Frockt - American Commercial Lines

*Welcome to the club!*

### ***2007 - 2008 Officers & Directors:***

President: **Danny Schnautz, Clark Freight Lines**

Vice Prez: **Deborah Butler, Euro Hub Int'l**

Secretary: **Shristi Shrestha,**

**Edna Rice Executive Recruiters**

Treasurer: **Bob Clark, Shell E&P**

Director: **Jamie Joiner, Baker & Hostetler LLP**

Director: **Mike Taber, Chevron Phillips Chemical**

Director: **Larry Snellings, DangerousGoods.com**

Director: **Robert Morgan, Port of Houston**

Immediate Past Prez: **Alistair Macnab, Retired**

Executive Secretary: **Russell Powell,**

**Kratochvil, Powell**