

INSIDE MOVES



LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION 403 West 8th St., Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90014 (213) 626-0370

The LACTC Staff Newsletter "All the news that's unfit to print"

COMINGS AND GOINGS

The personnel folks have been up to their old tricks of late, hiring on more new staffers than anybody can hope to keep track of. But don't despair--"Inside Moves" comes to your rescue.

COMING ON BOARD...

Jumping on board at the end of April was new Secretary **ANITA CROCKETT**. Anita works in the contracts section up on the 7th floor. She holds a certificate in court reporting from Chaffey College and resides in West Covina with her parents and two dogs. Anita enjoys Mexican food (we recommend The Golden Gopher next door), jazz, Jonell Lawson, and Jamaica.

The end of April also saw three new secretaries joining our G&PA Division on the 5th and 7th floors:

MIMI GAMEZ has taken over Deana Burton's old slot as secretary to the Government Relations section on the 5th floor. Mimi previously worked for the City of Norwalk, where she grew up, went to school, and still lives. Between her full-time schedule here at LACTC and a few evening classes at East Los Angeles College, Mimi enjoys old movies, traveling, and art. She'll fit right in with the social events at the G&PA Division since she is not a fussy eater.



Anita



Mimi



Therese



Tamiko

At the same time, **THERESE** (not the more logical-seeming "Teresa," mind you) **HERNANDEZ** joined us as secretary to the 5th-floor contingent of Community Relations, under Steve Lantz. Among her principal responsibilities, Therese lists coordinating the Citizens' Advisory and I-405 committees and assisting with items needed for EIR Valley meetings ("suits of armor, referee padding & masks"). Before hiring on with us, Therese coordinated "entertainment and sports individuals and figures" (I always suspected that some of those figures weren't individuals), booking such speakers as Jerry Buss, Ken Norton, and Al Hirshfield. Therese is one of that rare breed, native Angelinos; she studied broadcasting and liberal arts at L.A. City College. She now lives in "lovely Boyle Heights on route to Silverlake," and has no pets but loves cats. She does have a pet peeve, however: rude people. Among her hobbies are calligraphy, weightlifting, and attending art-gallery openings. Therese likes this quote but doesn't know who said it: "We will never be exalted until we are all exalted."

The third new G&PA sec, **TAMIKO HIRANO-MONKAWA**, joined Robin McCarthy's 7th-floor contingent of Community Relations. Tamiko is somewhat of a mystery woman, since I couldn't coax one of our "Who Are You?" forms out of her; but I hear through the grapevine that her background is very impressive. Maybe after she's been here a bit longer, I'll talk her into being featured in "Meet Your Co-Workers." Meanwhile, we'll just have to get to know her one at a time.

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Comings & Goings, continued



Hopefully **KATE BEAUDET** has discovered the delicious popcorn sold in the 6th-floor vending machine. The new secretary for the Paratransit Section of P&FA notes the crunchy snack as her favorite edible. Kate joined us in May. A native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Kate now resides in Northridge with three of her five children and a nasty-tempered Shih Tzu Tzu named Marilyn. Her most interesting job before LACTC was with WZMF radio in Wisconsin "where I did everything from commercials to distribute newspapers," she says. Maybe we can get her to create a rail car radio jingle for us. Obviously an avid reader, Kate enjoys Richard Francis, Marlyn French, Ellen Goodman, and John Irving. She can enjoy a range of music from Todd Rundgren to Madame Butterfly (wasn't that a rock band from the 70's? or was that Iron Butterfly?). Her pet peeve is "going 50 in the high-speed lane" which sounds appropriate for someone who likes to vacation in New York City! But we're sure she can hold her own in the Big Apple 'cuz her philosophy of life is "do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Far from a newcomer around here, **CECILIA CAMACHO-SHAPIRO** also became an official LACTC staffer in May, after a long stint as a temp. (Have you noticed how often that happens here? Says something about the working conditions.) As a secretary in the Transit Development Division, Cecilia reports mainly to Rail Construction Manager John Adams. Cecilia grew up in Columbia, South America, and now lives in Hollywood with her husband. She lists her hobbies as reading, traveling, and gardening and says her favorite vacation is "anywhere in France or Italy, but I will settle for Puerto Vallarta." (I'll second that.) Cecilia's philosophy: "Do the best you can."

Welcome to **MARIKO YAMAGAMI** -- or "M," as she prefers to be called -- the new Transit Program Analyst in the Programming and Fiscal Analysis Department as of June. M oversees 13 municipal bus operators excluding SCRTD. This native Angelino received a B.A. in math & statistics and an M.A. in transportation planning somewhere "back east." Looks as if she's in the right place to put those degrees to work. M has a short commute home to Los Feliz, which leaves her with plenty of time to enjoy her hobbies -- napping, gardening, reading and drawing. She'll read "anyone who has something intelligent to say," but will then turn around and tune in to the Motley Crue! For M it would be heaven to stay home and eat chocolates and sushi on her vacation. (Is there such a thing as a chocolate California roll?) Her philosophy: "When the going gets tough, the tough get going," but go slow 'cuz her pet peeve is, those who are always in a hurry.

AL SCALA joined us at the end of June, stepping into the new position of Contracts Manager for Transit Development--up on the 7th floor with our other contracts folks. Al got to know us and the LB-LA rail transit project as Equipment Procurement Manager for our rail designers, SCRC (Southern California Rail Consultants); guess he liked what he saw. Al grew up in Pittsburgh, PA, got his B.S. in mechanical engineering from the U. of Pitts., and went on to get his MBA at Robert Norris or Morris College in the same city. He now lives in Valencia with his wife Mary Lynn and a dog named Licorice. His hobbies are "most outdoor sports and gourmet cooking when time permits." Al gets peeved by people who "are the first to find fault and the last to make suggestions," and he offers the following classy quote from Henri Bergson for us to ponder: "To exist is to change; to change is to mature; to mature is to create oneself endlessly."



Down on the 2nd floor, **BOB SANDERS** is our new Records Manager, picking up where Dennis Heidebrecht left off and keeping track of our archives and important documents. Bob joins us after 11 years as archivist for Pepperdine University, so he's an expert in his field. He grew up in Fort Worth, Texas, got his BA from Pepperdine and his MA and PhD from Tulane U in New Orleans. He lives in Agoura (watch out for Creative Video, Bob--see "Did You Know...?") with his wife, two young sons, a large floppy-eared hare, and "a rapidly expanding community of tropical fish." His whole family--except the fish--enjoys hiking, biking, camping, and photography. And get these eclectic reading tastes: "Kleist; Heller; K. Marx; St. Paul." Favorite filmmakers: Bergman and Woody Allen. As for a quote, here's Bob's paraphrase of the young K. Marx: "History is made neither by those absorbed in idealistic dreams of what should be nor by realists resigned to accepting what is. Rather it is made by those who seek their ideal as a potentiality within existing reality and then work to emancipate it from the incomprehension thwarting its actualization." Right; now if only all those thwarters would get out of our way, we could DO something about transportation in L.A. County....



Continued on next page

Comings & Goings, continued

New staffers who will be profiled next time around include P&FA Secretary Glenda Hill, Communications Rep Roberta Tinajero, Community Relations Specialist Art Gomez, new Rail Transit Secretary Kyra Miller, Transportation Planning Intern-Turned-Analyst Kay Cooley, and Receptionist Mary Cantu.

Welcome to all these new folks; you certainly AUTO enjoy working in the RAILly BUSTling world of transportation. (Note: no writer on this paper can be impeached for bad puns.)

MOVING UP...

Congratulations to new Government Relations Manager **CLAUDETTE MOODY**, who steps up from her former position as a rep in that section after the defection--er, departure--of her ex-boss Steve "Witty" Juarez (now in Sacramento). Claudette started with LACTC in October 1985 after working on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. As GR manager, she is responsible for our relations with local, state, and federal politicians and for deciphering legislative lingo and innuendo and telling the rest of us what's going on with the power-brokers--not to mention trying to get them to pay attention to what's going on with us. With reorganization looming, Claudette has really been busy ever since Steve left--she was acting GR manager before being officially promoted. Be sure to read Claudette's article elsewhere in this issue on how you can help her section do its important work.



Claudette

Also moving up into the position of Senior Secretary, Transit Development, is **ILDA LICON**. Despite her youth, Ilda is an old-timer around here, having started at the Comish back in September of '82 as secretary up in P&FA. She has always been a mainstay of our social activities--especially softball games, so I'm sure she'll be slugging home-runs as usual at Bob M's upcoming event (see "The Social Scene"). Ilda is yet another native of Los Angeles (we seem to be featuring them this issue)---she grew up in the San Gabriel Valley. In her new slot on the fourth floor, Ilda's main responsibility is to keep the rail projects that are under construction from driving Ed McSpedon crazy, and generally keeping the gears of her section well oiled and smoothly running.

Our heartiest congratulations to Claudette and Ilda on their promotions.



Ilda



Vicenta

CHANGES...

Community Relations Specialist **RICK GOMEZ** has moved from the 7th-floor CR section down to the 5th-floor CR section; he's now working with Steve Lantz and Therese Hernandez on all those rail lines that are still under study (as opposed to under construction--that part is handled by Robin McCarthy's section where Rick first served), as well as on CR work relating to the highway plan. Rick hopes to bring his bilingual talents into use at upcoming meetings in Lincoln Heights and El Sereno, as we continue to study a possible rail transit line through that heavily Hispanic neighborhood. Rick has been with us since the end of June last year; he lives in Anaheim, "five minutes away from Disneyland in my own fantasyland," with his wife and new baby (see "Did You Know...?"). Some of his favorite activities are vacationing in Acapulco, reading futurist Alvin Toffler, promoting LACTC Toastmasters, eating Chinese food, and heckling fellow bilingual G&PA staffer Anita Rives.

Also changing sections last quarter was Secretary **VICENTA BECERRAL**, who moved from her corner post outside Ed Richardson's door, on the third floor, to the External Affairs section on the fourth floor. Vicenta has been on our payroll about three and a half years, after doing a stint as a temp. She came to the US from the Phillipines with her two youngest children and has been working ever since to bring her older children here as well, so anyone who has ideas about how to speed up the INS process should definitely let her know. Congratulations are due to Vicenta on her U.S. citizenship, which she was granted last month.

BERTIE JACKSON took a leap from the fourth to the seventh floor to become one of the project engineers in construction. Bertie became acquainted with the LACTC and the City of Los Angeles when he moved here from Miami in 1985 to assume a design engineering position. While in Florida, he worked as a resident engineer with the Dade County Transportation Administration. Bertie grew up in India, earned his BS in civil engineering at the U of Madras, and put his skills to work on the Atlanta, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C., metro projects. He lives with his wife and two daughters (aged 10 and 15) in Anaheim. Bertie, who once sang with the Miami Civic Chorale, says he lives to sing and remains an active performer. ■

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: ELECTED OFFICIALS AND THE PECULIAR WORLD OF POLITICS

by

Claudette Moody, Manager of Government
Relations

WHAT IT IS; WHO WE ARE

Since its creation in 1976, the Commission and its responsibilities have expanded significantly. It has been increasingly necessary to ensure that the Commission's programs and policies are known and understood by our local, state and federal elected officials. To meet this need, the Government Relations (GR) Section has continued to grow in duties in the last five years. The section continually attempts to find new and exciting ways to get our electeds interested in "rights-of-way", TIPS and concrete pours. Believe me, unless buses are driven through their offices it ain't easy, but we give it a shot.

Currently, GR has two professional staff and a very harassed, but hard working secretary/assistant. The section will fill a vacant GR rep. position by the end of August (please refer your friends to Jose). Mary Lou Echternach deals with the healthy egos of local elected officials and any transportation-related actions occurring in the local governments throughout the county. I am temporarily handling the ambitious and sensitive state and federal electeds and dealing with other legislative activities. I will share those duties with the new GR rep. come September. Mimi Gamez is our section's busy secretary and all around great person.



WHAT WE DO

About 60-70 percent of the GR staff's time is spent writing (and why we don't have typewriters or personal computers is beyond me), researching and analyzing legislation and legislative issues (with the assistance of technical staff). Our primary responsibility is to report our findings and recommendations in this regard to the Commission's Intergovernmental Relations Committee and LACTC staff. You can think of us as legislative advisors and information brokers for the Commission. GR also provides direction for the LACTC consultants in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

That brings me to our second most important and time-consuming function; the "relations" part of government relations. In order for us to work effectively for the Commission, we must continually establish and re-establish working relationships with elected officials and their staffs. We do that through a lot

of phone contact (Pacific Bell loves us), correspondence, one-on-one briefings, and joint meetings in the county and the capitols. We often initiate meetings; sometimes to talk about specific projects, sometimes just to keep the work of the Commission in the minds and hearts of the electeds. Therefore, it is vitally important that the section be clued-in to any and all contact other LACTC staff make with electeds and their staffs. We should have this information - drafts of letters, meeting dates, phone calls - prior to that contact. If that is not possible, we would like to know about the contact immediately after it occurs. You can imagine how embarrassing it would be (and has been) for GR staff and the Commission to learn about discussions on LACTC programs and projects from the elected official! When that happens, it appears that the right hand of the Commission doesn't know what the left is doing. Working as a unit will really allow all of us to do our job more effectively.

HOW TO WORK AS A UNIT

Below are a few simple guidelines to follow which will help GR present the LACTC in the most favorable light to our electeds and meet the needs of our commissioners:

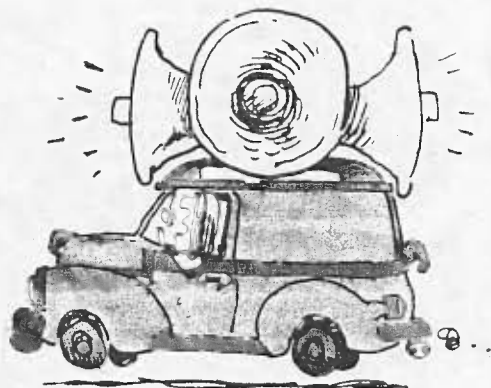
1. If you receive a request for information from an elected official's office (other than a commissioner), let GR know pronto. We should review the packet of info (if one is sent) prior to mailout. That way, we can avoid duplicating the material when we next meet with the studious politician.
2. Contact GR staff if you need to meet with any elected officials. It may be that we would want to attend such a meeting, or we may have some tips on the meeting participants and agenda.
3. Let GR know if you need information on legislation. Conversely, if you hear something hot about a particular bill, give us a call. All lobbying work will be handled by GR staff and consultants unless it is necessary to involve the technical experts.
4. And speaking of smoke-filled rooms, let GR know if you need anything from one of our consultants; Irv Smith in D.C. and Tim Egan in Sacto.
5. If you need to send a letter to an elected official, please, let GR review the draft and then send us a copy of the signed letter for our files.
6. Please sign out for, and promptly return, all Deering California Codes. The sign-out book is right next to the codes. Vee haf vays of making you comply wif dis requirement!

Current empty spaces on our shelves include:

Corporations - 2320-4999
Evidence - 800-end
Government - 1000-7999

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DID YOU KNOW...?



Did you know that **MICHAEL LOLLER**, our Affirmative Action/Labor Relations Analyst for the rail folks down on the fourth floor, has a pair of show greyhounds? Both dogs won top honors in the Beverly Hills Kennel Club show on Father's Day (6/21) at the Sports Arena. The male of the pair, whose show name is Huzzah Am I Blue (known around the house as "Blueboy"), picked up First Place Winner's Dog in the American-bred dogs' class, earning himself one of the remaining points he needs to become a champion. The female--Huzzah Hard-Hearted Hannah ("Hannah")--picked up First Place Winner's Bitch. Blueboy now has six points toward his championship and Hannah has two.... Our ex-Sunshine Club prez **GERI BRODIE** also is garnering awards; she came by not too long ago toting several bottles of her homemade dark beer, which took first prize at a this year's Pomona State Fair; betcha beer-brewer **BOB MINAHAN** could give Geri's Brewery (as she calls her venture) a run for its ribbon, though.... Speaking of Mr. Minahan, Bob and Deputy Executive Director of Rail Development **PAUL TAYLOR** both recently graduated from UCLA's certificate program in Transportation Demand Management, after devoting 30 Wednesday evenings during the last nine months to classes. Now that's dedication.... Meanwhile, the headaches are over for supersecretary **KATHY TORIGOE** since her daughter's wedding day has come and gone; seems Kathy was in charge of the biggest ceremony this side of Princess Di's, and now that it's all successfully behind her, she's in Hawaii to recuperate.... Did you know that our part-time graphics artist **LEON COOKSEY'S** youngest son, 17-year-old Travis, has world-class running potential? He's rated as number one in California by one second and number two in the nation. Trav's ratings are based on running times--now he has to defend them in competition. After that he'll be aiming at the 1992 Olympics.... Congratulations to our former manager of Government Relations **STEVE JUAREZ** and his wife Karen; they now have a son, Andrew Steven, born on June 4 without problems and weighing nine pounds 6 ounces. Daddy Steve says he can already tell his son is "gifted," no doubt using the baby's excellent choice of parents as proof. We look forward to "Fatherhood, the Sequel," in which Steve will show Bill Cosby what funny really means.... Here's a recent photo of little six-month-old Roxana Gomez, giggling with glee at the antics of

proud Papa **RICK GOMEZ**, community relations specialist on the fifth floor. Note that Roxana is clapping her feet, apparently not having realized yet that clapping sounds are made with one's hands. Don't worry, Rick, we're sure she'll turn out to be perfectly normal.... Did you know that our Manager of



Rail Facilities Engineering **MANIT CHURANAKOSES** was part of a military intelligence unit during the Viet Nam War? He ran spy missions across the Cambodian border but decided it was time to give up such Bondian escapades one day when his house blew up shortly after he'd left it. You find out such things during staffers' "Ice Breaker" speeches at Toastmasters meetings.... Did you know that Director of Program Development **RICHARD STANGER'S** long-time main squeeze Isabela (whom many of us have met at various LACTC activities) was featured in a recent full-page ad in the Los Angeles Times promoting the Santa Monica Mall? We hear Richard didn't think the ad did her justice.... Rumor has it that someone in G&PA Division is a topless sunbather; we are leaving no suntan lines unchecked in our tireless efforts to confirm this report.... Did you know that, in junior high school, our Manager of Transit Programs **SHARON NEELY** was voted the one in her class with the cutest nose?.... Or that Highway Analyst **PETE DEHAAN** just returned from a month in China with his family, visiting his sister who teaches there?... Here's a sad commentary on our so-called justice system: Rail Systems Manager **NORM JESTER** recently rented some videotapes and returned them unwatched (no time). After renting the tapes to someone else, the store manager called Norm and accused him of having erased all the tapes and wanted him to pay \$1,500--the value of the tapes plus his estimate of rental fees lost. Norm was outraged and decided to battle it out in small claims court, where the judge admitted, "It's clear that no one

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is at fault here," before fining Norm almost \$400 to replace the bad tapes. Well, as someone once said, "Our court system is what we have because we can't have justice." And by the way, stay away from Creative Video in Agoura.... Congratulations to Local Assistance Program Analyst **PAM MOCK** on her recent marriage to Craig Tsuchida. Her new mate is going to start working on his doctorate in oceanography at UC Santa Cruz, so unhappily we'll lose Pam as soon as she finds a job up in that lovely part of the state.... Here's an interesting tidbit about new G&PAer **THERESE HERNANDEZ's** sister, Sheila: she was a contributing author to a compilation of birthing stories called Hearts Open Wide; sis's photo along with her son appears in the book.... Here's a rare instance of life imitating nursery rhyme: seems **MARY SUE O'MELIA** actually did bring a little lamb to school one day, back in the era of her early education.... Did you hear the one about the movie they're making on the life of Jim and Tammy Bakker? It's called "Children of a Looser God".... And guess what?? G&PA Division **FINALLY** got word-processors that were budgeted for it since 7/1/86; "even" we three writers have two Compaqs now. So you will no longer see G&PAers wandering about looking for flexing secs' machines to use. There was such jubilation, we literally broke out champagne.... See you next issue. ■



G&PA celebrates



THE "INSIDE MOVES" STAFF

Publisher: Erica Goebel
 Editors: Ann Reeves,
 Roberta Tinajero
 Graphics: Anna, Roberta
 Photos: Ditto

**GUEST COLUMNISTS ARE INVITED;
 CALL ANN OR ROBERTA.**

THE SOCIAL SCENE



Coming up fast is **LACTC'S 5TH AND FINAL ANNUAL CAMPOUT**, happening over the August 28th-30th weekend at Leo Carrillo State Beach. There is still room for folks who want to sleep over Friday and/or Saturday night, or you can come for days or evenings without staying overnight. The big event if you can't stay the whole weekend is the Saturday night BBQ and Tequila-swigging contest. Assorted spouses, children, and friends will be coming too. Let Ranger Cindy or Ranger Ilda know whether you plan to attend by signing up at the 5th floor reception desk. This has always been the real "let your hair down" event of our social year, and as it will be the last one--at least under the LACTC banner--I imagine we'll have tresses to our toes this time. Rumor has it that some ex-staffers--Kris Hill? Steve Parks? Julie Austin?--may show. Don't miss it!

For those who survive the campout, Bob Minahan is arranging a "best of three" **SOFTBALL REMATCH** with our usual rivals, Southern California Rail Consultants (SCRC), tentatively scheduled for September. The latest word is that a **PICNIC** is also in the works. Bob has already sent around a pink sign-up memo; if you're interested and didn't get one, call him up on ext. 491 and let him know what position you think you can handle.

Anyone who wants the fun and notoriety of writing up either of these events for the next issue of this paper (sheduled for around end of November) should contact Roberta or Ann in Communications. (Just think, that way you get to tell your version of things.)

And don't forget that **LACTC TOASTMASTERS** meets every other Tuesday from noon to 1:15. Meetings are almost always held in the 6th-floor conference room (Sept. 1 will be an exception--watch our flyers for the special location). All staff and consultants are welcome! You'll hear co-workers reveal things you'd never suspect and have a chance to think on your feet if called on for "Table Topics." Bring your lunch and join in the fun. If you decide you want to go for all those public-speaking and personal-presentation skills that Toastmasters offers, all staffers on LACTC's payroll can apply to have their new-member fees and dues paid by LACTC as part of their yearly training allotment. ■

MEET YOUR CO-WORKERS



Name: MARGARITA ORTIZ
 Started with LACTC:
 August 1983
 Current position: Senior
 Secretary
 Division: G&PA
 Principal responsibilities:
 Little bit of this,
 little bit of that,
 doses vary from day
 to day.
 Most interesting job:
 Straight out of high
 school I landed a job
 at a manufacturer/
 distributor of jewelry.
 Got fired after two
 weeks because I took
 advantage of my dis-
 count far too many
 times and was told I

did not take my job seriously (truth was they weren't kidding).
 Grew up in: ELA -- home and/or ex-home of such notables as: James Olmos, Paul Rodriguez, Anthony Quinn and my high school classmates "Los Lobos."
 Education: AA from my previous employer East L.A. College, completed business administration courses at Cal State L.A.
 Home life: Live in Hacienda Heights with husband/best friend Tony; two hyper girls--Michelle Lauren, six years and Andrea Christine, 8 mos. (who is learning real fast from Michelle).
 Hobbies: Redecorating our new home; gardening; traveling down south, but my favorite is shopping, especially for jewelry!

Favorites:
 all time -- My family.
 food -- Authentic Mexican food; Japanese food.
 authors -- No, it's editors--like in news clips. Newspapers are about all the reading I do, no time for leisure reading.
 actors -- James Woods, William Hurt, Martin Sheen
 music -- Michael Franks, Anita Baker, Mariachi music, Level 42 and anything listenable.
 vacation -- Just came from one that lasted 10 months, but I'm ready to go again (no baby package please).
 Pet Peeves: (1) Drunk drivers.
 (2) Bus commuters who don't practice personal hygiene.
 (3) Since my return, people who use the "basement elevator" and do not stop for others.
 Quotes: (1) If you want it, get it. (Me)
 (2) Que será, será. (Me)
 (3) "Whenever I have found that I have blundered or that my work has been imperfect, and when I have been contemptuously criticized, and even when I have been overpraised, so that I have felt mortified, it has been my greatest comfort to say hundreds of times to myself that 'I have worked so hard and as well as I could, and no man (in my case woman) can do more than this.'" (Charles Darwin)

Most interesting job before LACTC: Councillor at the Tammy Faye Bakker Elocution School in Gullibility, VA; present when star pupil O. North received the



Michael Landon Sincerity in Salesmanship Award, a gold-plated kleenex box.
 Grew up in: A state of confusion, St. Helens, Lancashire, England
 Education: B.S. in Building Construction
 Liverpool University, England
 Home life: Pasadena, near the Rose Bowl with girlfriend Carolyn Martinez, 2 cats and a worrisome remodelling project.
 Hobbies: Waiting for buses; racquetball; reading; KCET.

Favorites:
 food -- Italian
 authors -- Steinbeck, Greene, Theroux's travel books
 music -- Anything except Country and Elevator
 filmmakers -- BBC/Kubrick/Jack Nicholson/U.K. movies
 vacation -- Europe, Mexico, Thailand
 Pet Peeves -- (1) Inconsiderate people.
 (2) People who assume my name is Larry.
 Quotes -- "Things are very often what they seem to be." (Weldon)
 "Yes madam. I am drunk, and you are ugly. but in the morning I shall be sober." (Churchill)

Name: CRAIG JOHNSON
 Started with LACTC: April 1985
 Current Position: Rail Development Officer
 Division: Transit Development, 4th floor
 Principal responsibilities: Planning future rail lines through other people's backyards.
 Most interesting job before LACTC: Waiter in a gourmet Chinese restaurant in Atlantic City, N.J.
 Grew up in: One overcrowded room after another with mom, twin bother, and baby brother (now 27 and living in Sweden).
 Education: Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, CA
 Cal Poly Pomona - BA in Urban Planning, MA in Urban Design
 Home life: Live in large house on top of hill in Silverlake, with a revolving international cast of roommates and guests and one scuzzy cat.

Hobbies: Getting out of town. Architecture.
 Favorites:
 food -- Peanut-butter and jelly
 author -- Ayn Rand (The Fountainhead)
 music -- Neil Diamond or Ted Nugent
 movies -- "Aliens," "Bladerunner" (anything Sci-Fi)
 vacation-- As much as possible.
 Pet Peeve: Unstructured weekends.



Quote: (1) Live every day to its fullest -- because it may be your last.
 (2) I'd rather have a boat than a kid.

Name: LAWRENCE WELDON
 Started with LACTC: October 1985
 Current position: Project Engineer--Construction
 Division: Transit Development, 7th floor
 Principal responsibilities: Coordination of CM (construction management) contractor, reviewing contract documents, coordination with third-party entities, schedule coordination.



Name: MARY LOU or "Hey -- you're just who I was looking for" ECHTERNACH

Started with LACTC:

December 1985

Current Position: Government Relations Rep.

Division: G&PA, 5th floor

Principal responsibilities:

I give great phone. Provide liaison with 84 cities in the county and the more than 450 elected officials and the Bd. of Supvs. Try and keep up with actions or non-actions of local governments or create action or non-action. Frequently respond to other Commish depts. pleas for assistance.

Most interesting job before LACTC: Other than RTD, my most interesting job was pulling the heads off of shrimp on a Mexican shrimp boat.

Grew up in: Norwood (a town with population of 250) Colorado

Education: Matriculated at Norwood, CO kiddy-garten. Since then, attended numerous (but not committed) institutions, including RTD Bus Driver School. I discovered the Marine Biology department at the University of Arizona and figured that any major that required field trips to beaches in Mexico was the major for me. My mom thinks I majored in scuba diving with a minor in bartending.

Home life: I'm selfish and don't share my home on the beach at Long Beach with a spouse, main squeeze, significant other, etc., or children. (Resumes accepted though for potential squeezes.) This is probably why I have a great home life.

Hobbies: I'm still working on the world's largest wine cork collection for my bulletin board. I still collect eluvial fans and lateral and terminal moraines. I enjoy golf and poker parties. For a challenge, I get my boat out of my closet and paddle out to a buoy for an afternoon of floating.

Favorites:

- food -- Anything that goes with cold beer (fortunately, everything does!)
- author -- Stephen King, Lewis Carroll
- music -- B-52's, Pretenders, Todd Rundgren, the Harmacats, real music to my ears is a majority vote going my way!
- movies -- "Pee Wee Herman's Adventure," "Muppet Movie"
- vacation -- Any place, any time.
- Pet Peeve -- Cats with fleas, dogs that bark, fish that don't bite and horses that do.
- Quote -- To be good at what I do, Govt. Relations, I must be able to suck the pertinence out of a meeting like a weasel sucks an egg! ■

OUR BEAUTIFUL GARFIELD BUILDING

BY GERALDINE BERRETT

When you walk through the lobby of the Garfield Building, you may wonder who is responsible for the careful restoration to its original 1928 splendor.

The owner, Peter Beale, is a well-known property developer who has lovingly restored treasured old buildings in Europe (where "old" can mean "several hundred years old"), on the east coast of the United States, and now in California.

The Garfield Building was the first property he bought in Los Angeles, about six years ago. The 12-story, 110,000 - gross-square-foot structure, was designed by architect Claud Beelman 60 years ago. According to the Los Angeles Conservancy, the building "exemplifies the transition from the Beaux Arts to the Art Deco styles."

(Mr. Beale also owns nearby Giannini Place, an historic building at Seventh and Olive that is enjoying an award-winning restoration. He is developing South Park with the South Park Consortium, as well. His daughter is an extremely active restorer and developer in her own right, and his son is a speed-racing champion in worldwide wind-surfing.)

After the purchase of the Garfield Building, the entire lobby was redone; the "verde antique" marble walls cleaned, the twenty-foot ceiling repainted, the German silver picture-niche frames stripped and restored.

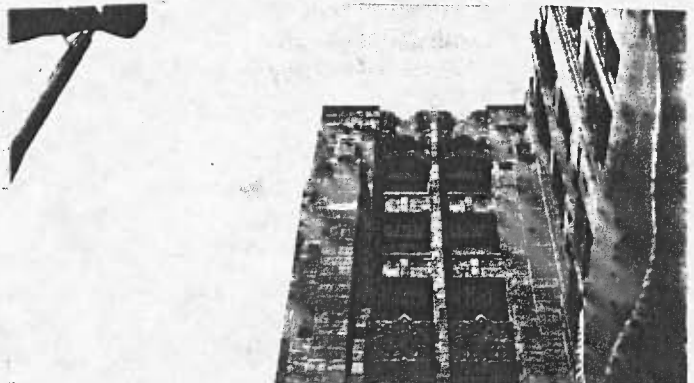
The chandeliers were taken down and stripped, redipped, and had their gold-leaf re-applied. The Art Deco elevator doors were cleaned; new elevator cabs were installed.

The Cultural Heritage Board of the Los Angeles Municipal Arts Department declared the lobby of the Garfield Building Historical Cultural Monument No. 121 in 1973. In 1982 it was admitted to the National Register of Historic Places, and it received a Preservation Award in 1986.

This structure, unique among restored downtown buildings, enjoys full occupancy. The lobby is on the Los Angeles Conservancy Art Deco walking tour (monthly, second Saturdays) and the Seventh Street "Mecca for Merchants" walking tour (fourth Saturdays). The information number at the Conservancy is (213) 623-CITY.

At one of the several ribbon-cuttings to honor the process of restoration, Mayor Tom Bradley told how the staunch old building had played a part in his life: when he was a child it was on his newspaper route; as a policeman it was on his beat; and as mayor he had the pleasure of opening it after the painstaking preservation and restoration.

The flag on the third-floor patio, matching one on Giannini Place, flies proudly over Eighth Street, celebrating life in our beautiful Garfield Building; we tenants salute you and appreciate you! ■



LOS ANGELES TRANSIT WORD-ENGINEERING PROGRAM FY 87

by Bob Vance

Attached is a partial list of word-engineering entires for Fiscal Year 1987. These quotes are oral, unless otherwise noted. My apologies to anyone who feels mis-quoted or over-quoted. Contributions for future issues are welcomed and thanks to those who so generously contributed (either intentionally or unintentionally) to this program.

New Verbs

1. Herzog plans to begin skeletoning the new track. (TCM Report)

Why not clear-span the structure? (Consultant)

Could we downstream that topic? (Consultant)

They'll be given to me and I'll composite them. (LACTC)

Then, we're going to manpower it. (SCRTD)

When a committee can be sunsetted, it should be. (LACTC Report)

He was able to gung-ho the thing. (LACTC)

Can we scenario this thing? (LACTC)

He no-showed the meeting. (MRTC)

We've cost-savings'd ourselves out of any...equipment. (SCRC)

Why don't we major-item these? (SCRC)

They may have to be addendaed out, and change-ordered back in. (Client)

How that funding is pied out, I don't know. (Consultant)

1A New Adjectives

...if I see that the pantograph is dis-configurated. (SCRC)

That procedure is pretty much finalaed. (Consultant)

2. Dog-Puppies

For your edification as well as information.... (MRTC)

If your contract has a blank hole in it, you have to fix it. (SCRTD)

Always keep your office keys with you at all times. (LACTC)

Other things depend on other things. (SCRC)

He left for the day and hasn't been back since. (LACTC)

The Commission's project could be adversely delayed. (LACTC)

3. Malapropisms

I don't want them shucking their responsibility. (LACTC)

It gerrymanders over into the design area. (LACTC)

The PE building was the transportation hubcap of downtown. (Downtown News/newspaper)

I find it incredulous that.... (SCRTD)

It's cumbersome, it's boot and suspenders. (TCM)

...eliminating the duplicity in design. (LACTC)

There's an elephant of truth there. (RTD)

4. Creative Usage

There's a move amok.... (LACTC)

Sometimes the thing comes back and bites you in the negative side. (LACTC)

The spirit of cooperation was somehow camouflaged in there. (LACTC)

It's the perception by others of us that counts with the people above us. (LACTC)

Every silver lining is surrounded by a cloud. (LACTC)

If the basis for the design starts waffling, then they have to report back to us what the results of the waffle are. (LACTC)

It's a call judgement. (SCRC)

4A Creative Analogies/Mixed Metaphors

They are mixing apples, oranges, and pineapples. (SCRTD)

That's a bit of a long billiard ball. (SCRC)

Continued on next page

In Memory

Bob Vance

• • •

We'll miss you



WORD-ENGINEERING, cont. from previous page

5. Double-Takes/Non Sequiturs

Do I have any messages that I don't have?
(SCRC)

I'll get the draft to you before I even write it. (LACTC)

Plus, the other minus is....(SCRC)

The problems only show up as they begin to occur. (SCRC)

It will be mirror-image except just the opposite. (SCRC)

Sometimes it's wrong, and sometimes it's different but not wrong. (SCRC)

...a single double-crossover. (SCRC)

I like these systems that are pie-in-the-sky. (LACTC)

There are a couple of things that are problems, but that's no problem.
(Consultant)

We do know that; we just haven't found it out. (LACTC)

6. Unfortunate Homonyms, or, the Perils of Dictation

Your design review should bare all previous events in mind. (MRTC letter)

Please note that this work is being performed during the sensitive period of agreement negotiations and as such requires digression on the part of all participants. (LACTC memo)

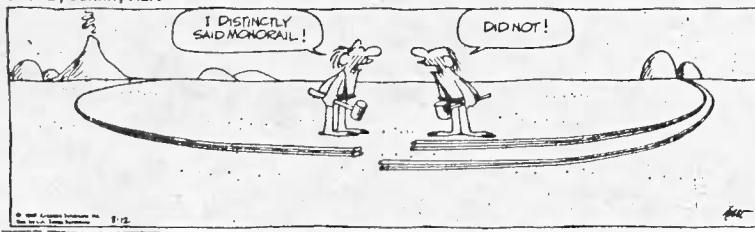
(She) explained her roll in Metro Rail.
(LACTC memo)

7. Grand Prize for Gobbledegook (tie)

Effective utilization of the fire detection protection and suppression equipment shall be addressed in a procedure in order to minimize detection and extinguishment of any fire in the CCF. (Consultant document)

It provides a constrained multi-variate optimization algorithm using Quasi-Newton methods that can deal with a non-analytic cost surface of discrete functional values that is irregular and rough. (Abstract on problems of traffic control!)

B.C. By Johnny Hart



HELP! NEED TWO TICKETS TO PINK FLOYD (11-28). WILL PAY TOP \$, CALL RICK AT EXT. 555.

MEETING NOTICE!

LACTC TOASTMASTERS

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, SEPT. 1
7TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

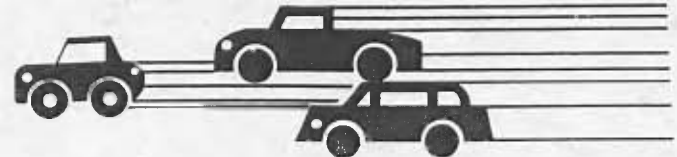
NOON - 1:15 PM (BRING LUNCH)

ALL STAFF & CONSULTANTS WELCOME!

Scheduled speakers:

BARBARA WILSON

LEO LEE



GOV'T RELATIONS, cont. from page 4

7. Requests for testimony before elected officials should be reviewed by GR. We have an extensive file of testimony.

8. If you are contemplating a briefing or a major event with elected officials and their staffs, let us know plenty of time in advance.

9. If you need a bill run-off on the computer, please be patient. Just as in your section, GR has competing priorities. Besides, it takes a while for the legislation to print because we do not have a loser printer.

10. The IRC is the legislative arm of the Commission and GR is that committee's staff. If you want other LACTC committees to review legislation so that the Commission will have technical input on an issue, please work with GR. We will help you write the item (which must go to IRC if it is not just an update), we can check on the status of the bill, and we can tell you some things about the political players involved in the issue. The upshot is this; anything dealing with legislation should be reviewed and discussed with GR.

11. And remember, vote early and often.