

# HEADWAY



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## Rail Superintendents Named

Two District employees were promoted to superintendents of rail transit projects in late October, 1985.

Richard Morton was named Superintendent of Rail Equipment Maintenance, and Ed Vandeverter is the new Rail Operations Superintendent. Morton served as an Air Force officer 20 years before joining the RTD in 1983 as a maintenance manager. Vandeverter has worked for the District 10 years, first as a principal planner, then as a systems engineer in the Scheduling Department. Prior to that, he served 13 years as a transportation engineer with the California Department of Transportation.



Richard Morton has been named superintendent of rail equipment maintenance at the District. Morton will be responsible for supervising rail maintenance efforts for both the Metro Rail subway and light rail systems that the RTD will operate.

Morton received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Kansas State University at Pittsburg and a master's degree in business administration with a spe-

cialty in transportation from the University of Tennessee.

In the Air Force, Morton held operating and staff positions in various modes of transportation including rail, air, water, truck, and pipeline. "I feel very good about having succeeded to this position," said Morton. "So far my duties feel familiar because the principles of maintenance regarding rail are not dissimilar from that of buses." At the District, Morton managed the maintenance operations at Divisions 7 and 15.

Morton will now manage the equipment maintenance programs of both the proposed Metro Rail subway, and light rail service that will begin operation in Los Angeles starting in 1989. He will also supervise training of rail equipment maintenance personnel, write rail equipment maintenance procedures, and work with rail car manufacturers in the servicing and maintenance of subway and light rail cars.

Vandeverter joined the RTD in 1975 as an advance planner and later was promoted to principal planner. He has worked on the District's express fare system, service analysis programs, and also helped estimate the impacts of proposed revisions to federal operating assistance and capital programs.

The former systems engineer also was instrumental in applying the District's computer Transit Management Information System (TRANSMIS) to improve run cutting in the Scheduling Department.

Vandeverter holds bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from the University of Southern California. An avid rail historian, he has been active for 10 years with the



Ed Vandeverter has been promoted to rail operations superintendent at the District. He will be responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the Metro Rail subway and various light rail systems that the RTD will operate.

Orange Empire Railway Museum in Perris, CA.

The new superintendent of rail operations was elated over his new assignment. "I've always wanted this kind of job," said Vandeverter. He will review operating plans for both the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission's light rail projects, which the RTD will operate, and RTD's Metro Rail subway. He also will oversee training of rail supervisors and operators, manage the daily operations of the two-rail systems once they begin revenue service, and write the rule books for train operation.

Morton and Vandeverter have embarked on the planning stage for the maintenance and operation systems. Both have indicated a strong commitment to develop feasible system procedures that attend to efficiency as well as cost effectiveness.

## Ridership Up Despite Hike

RTD bus ridership remains high despite the fare hike July 1, 1985.

In the first four months since the base fare was raised from 50 cents to 85 cents, total passenger boardings have declined only 4 percent over 1984 levels. A 17½ percent drop in patronage as a result of higher fares was predicted.

An estimated 156 million passengers boarded buses from July 1 through October 1985. RTD carried 162 million boarding passengers during the same period in 1984.

District planners believe bus riders are taking less discretionary trips for recreation and other purposes, but the higher fares have not caused a significant deflection among commuters who depend on RTD service for travel to work and school.

Overcrowding persists on some routes. In anticipation of a sharp drop in ridership when fares were raised July 1, the District removed 163 buses from service. Twenty-five buses since have been returned to service to meet demand and another 50 will soon be deployed.

Part of the expense to put the added buses into service is offset by greater farebox revenue. If current trends continue for the entire fiscal year through next June, the District will realize an estimated \$8.2 million more from farebox revenue than budgeted, bringing the District's annual farebox income to \$194 million. RTD receives about 40 percent of its operating income from the farebox.

The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission has given tentative approval for funding up to \$5 million in additional local Proposition A sales tax funds to enable the District to deploy the 50 added buses. They will be deployed on selected routes experiencing overcrowding.

## United Way Campaign Kicks Off

The RTD United Way Campaign will begin January 17 running until February 7, announced this year's United Way Coordinator, Assistant to the General Manager David D. Dominguez at the first of the 1986 United Way Committee planning meetings.

The committee's 1984 United Way activity at the District resulted in donations totaling \$318,213, a 48.7% increase over the 1983 campaign. This year the committee established their goal at an increase of 30 percent over 1984's performance. To make it easier for the generous to contribute, all campaign materials will be enclosed along with employee paychecks.

Awards will be given to the Transportation and Maintenance Divisions and the Headquarters Building Department contributing the greatest percentage increase over last year's donations.

The orientation meeting for campaign coordinators is to be held Tuesday, January 14, from 8 to 10 a.m. in the Headquarters Building Board Room on the second floor.

Committee members in attendance for the 1986 Campaign planning meeting included: Transit Police Investigator Susan Bailey, Mechanic A Mike Bujosa, Office Supervisor Nina Capoccia, Payroll Manager Howard

Crawford, Administrative Services Officer Dick Dimon, Assistant Payroll Manager Tom Wynn, Division 10 Operator Sam Harper, Safety Analyst Frank Larson, and Management Intern Terry Solis.



The 1986 United Way Campaign Committee kicks off plans for the start of this year's campaign. Clockwise around the table: United Way Representative Dan Bent, Management Intern Terry Solis, Operator Sam Harper, Mechanic A Mike Bujosa, Transit Police Investigator Susan Bailey, Administrative Services Officer Dick Dimon, Assistant Payroll Manager Tom Wynn, Payroll Manager Howard Crawford, United Way Campaign Coordinator David Dominguez, and Office Supervisor Nina Capoccia.



# YOUR IDEAS AT WORK



## HEADQUARTERS IMPROVEMENT TEAM PROJECT



HIT Committee members Richard Powers, Bert Becker, and Mike Butler asked Senior Secretary Linda Reed to draw the names of the employees winning bonus bonds.

The Headquarters Improvement Team Project held a drawing in the Headquarters cafeteria on December 3, at 12 p.m.

From all the Headquarters improvement suggestions recently submitted by employees, five names were drawn. These five lucky employees received \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds.

The winners were Loralee Cannon, Susan Phifer, Mary Lou Weaver, Anne F. Odell, and Allan Styffe.

The HIT Project is the result of a management retreat from which developed an agenda to make substantive improvements within a 90-day time-frame. HIT is responsible to improve the physical appearance of the Headquarters Building. These

improvements include redecorating and recarpeting the second, third, and fourth floors, renovating the cafeteria; revamping the mezzanine, the first-floor lobbies, and the exterior of the building.

Put on display at the same time as the drawing was held, were renderings of the proposed exterior building improvements. Sample swatches of carpeting and wallcovering were displayed as well. The new color schemes for the different floors include a coordination of light blue, soft grey, and blue-grey for the fourth floor; chocolate brown, beige, and tan for the third floor; and pecan brown, hazel brown, and beige for the second floor.

## Leahy and Wilson Promoted

Michael Leahy of Glendale, a 12-year District employee, has been promoted to Maintenance Superintendent for Planning and Programs, with overall responsibility for development of RTD maintenance department policies, financial and operational programs, and budget.

The 35-year-old Leahy first joined the District in 1973 as a telephone information operator. Since then he has served as a supervisor in the Customer Relations Department, a customer service representative, management assistant, and personnel analyst.

His most recent assignments have been in the areas of procurement and maintenance administration. He served from 1977 to 1980 as an operations analyst, developing equipment performance standards. From 1980 until his promotion, he served as manager of equipment engineering, and as such was responsible for procurement of all revenue and non-revenue vehicles and support equipment.

Leahy graduated from Pepperdine University in 1980 with a masters degree in Public Administration. He also has received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from the California State University in Los Angeles.

Leahy and his wife Diana have a son Michael Gordon.

joining the RTD in 1967 as a bus operator. As a divisional Superintendent, he will be responsible for the overall administration of bus operators including manpower, training, safety, and labor relations at Divisions 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 15.

The new Superintendent has attended California State University studying business administration and completed several business management courses at the University of California at Los Angeles.

He also has successfully completed the Chicago Transit Authority Technical Institute.

Wilson served as one of the District's principal negotiators in the District's 1982 and 1985 labor negotiations.

He and his wife Oneitha, have two sons, Christopher and Eric.

## Cities Pitch In On Bus Fare

Seven more Los Angeles County cities, including South Gate, South Pasadena, Temple City, Maywood, Alhambra, Lynwood and Commerce are subsidizing monthly bus passes and stamps at a discounted rate for residents of their communities.

Each of the cities has elected to invest a portion of its Proposition A transit tax funds to subsidize monthly passes for senior citizens and the disabled. Lynwood and South Gate also will be subsidizing passes for all residents and for college, high school, junior high, and elementary school students.

A total of 26 Los Angeles County cities have chosen to invest local Proposition A transit tax funds to subsidize RTD bus passes. In addition, four supervisorial districts (2, 3, 4, and 5) are subsidizing bus passes for selected rider groups residing in unincorporated areas in the districts.

Ralph Wilson of Walnut, an 18-year District employee has been promoted to a Superintendent of Bus Operations supervising half of the District's 12 operating divisions.

In his new position, the 39-year-old Wilson will be responsible for 2,300 bus operators and six divisions from which approximately 1,100 buses are fielded every day.

Wilson has served in numerous capacities with the District including division manager, assistant division manager, and staff assistant since

## Hollywood Ticket Office Hosts Grand Re-opening

The District's Hollywood Customer Service Center, located on Hollywood Boulevard in the Pantages Building, re-opened November 25, 1985 following major renovation.

RTD patrons found a new look at the old office, now decorated in soft, muted grey tones contrasted by lively maroon accents. Communications

Representative Scott Smith described the original office as cave-like with its 20-foot ceiling and bleak interior. In honor of the occasion, the Marketing Department scheduled a number of events to celebrate the grand re-opening.



Haig A. Sarafian, by being the 50th customer in line at the grand opening is presented with a calculator by Communications Representative Scott Smith.

Historical transit lithographs were given to the first 200 customers. Complimentary door prizes of calculators were given to the lucky 50th, 100th, and 150th customers entering the Center.

Refreshments, which included a huge chocolate-chip cookie inscribed with "Welcome Back," were served to all patrons and visitors from the Hol-

lywood community.

Monthly passes, tickets, informational pamphlets, schedule maps, and timetables are available through the Center. With this re-opening, the temporary office at 6258 Hollywood Boulevard will be closed. The office hours of the modernized facility will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Acting Prepaid Sales Manager Michael Barnes confers with Ticket Clerks Marjorie Boeche and Carol McClintock before the grand opening.



RTD back on the walk of the stars.

Cover Story

# Christmas at Headquarters Is Hit



Sixth floor employees Carmelita Romero, Cynthia Valdez, and Deanna Forrest work to create the tree that won the General Manager's "Spirit of Christmas Award."

Safety Director Joseph Reyes, the Headquarters Improvement Team (HIT) Christmas Tree Coordinator had the coffee and cookies wheeled out for the Christmas Tree-trimming parties held on each floor of the Headquarters Building on December 10.

Christmas Tree Decorating, a spin-off of the HIT agenda, was initiated to increase employee involvement in the spirit of Christmas. Employees on each floor in the Headquarters Building were encouraged to design and decorate their own Christmas trees. Each floor had selected monitors to organize the event. HIT supported the effort by providing trees, toys, and foodstuffs. Employees made donations or contributed baked goods. By Christmas Eve the efforts of the 425 employees, the presents, toys, and decorations were distributed to local charities.

As a bonus for the tree-trimmers, HIT put together a structure of awards. The major award given was the General Manager's Spirit of Christmas Award. The plaque commemorates the team effort that was brought together to decorate the best tree and to depict the spirit of Christmas. The plaque now hangs in the main lobby.

The winner for 1985 was the sixth floor. Other award winners included most original, fifth floor; most inspirational, third floor; most innovative, second floor; most creative, fourth floor; most traditional, first floor; and most colorful, basement floor. "Judging by the enthusiasm for this project, it seems to have been an overwhelming success," said Reyes. "HIT looks forward to introducing other activities of a common cause that will benefit the common good," he said.



Fourth floor artist Kenneth Crawford beside the tree chosen "Most Creative."



Second floor tree trimmers Sara Romero and Helen Bolen decorate "Most Innovative."



The Personnel Department Chorale sang at each floor tree-trimming party. First row, from the left: Julie Flores, Nikki Barnard, and Gayel Pitchford. Second row, from the left: Ralph Cady, Yvon Davis, and Andre Hanna.



Fifth floor Christmas monitors Tobi Hernandez, Anita Allen, and Clarence Brown helped create a tree that won "Most Original."



Second floor Christmas tree monitors Scott Smith and Ellen Nagler.



Basement tree trimmers sing Christmas carols.



Fifth floor tree.



Third floor tree trimmers created the "Most Inspirational."



Third floor employees.



Personnel Department decorators Karen Troupe (left) and Hope Powell.

# COMMENDATIONS



October 1985 Employees of the Month—Certificates of merit were presented by RTD Director John F. Day at the November 20, 1985 Board Meeting. Front row, from left to right: Director Day, Division 3 Mechanic Jose Salamanca, Telephone Operator Claire Fitzgerald, and Division 15 Operator Richard P. Jones. Back row, from left to right: General Manager John A. Dyer, Division 3 Maintenance Manager Frank Denaro, Division 15 Transportation Manager Marcus Johnson, and Customer Relations Manager Robert Williams.



Eight Transit Police employees were recently promoted. The employees were given their new badges by Chief James Burgess in a ceremony held at the Transit Police Headquarters. The new promotees include: front row, from the left: Officer Susan H. Bailey to Investigator and Officer Stephen O. Jones to Investigator. Second row, left to right: Investigator Simon Hairston to Sergeant, Investigator Marvin L. Merriweather to Sergeant, and Officer John Lopez to Investigator. Third row, left to right: Officer Mario A. Casas to Investigator, Sergeant Jerald R. Morin, Sr. to Lieutenant, Officer Carlton E. Little to Investigator, and Chief James Burgess.



Recognition of retirees — Presentation of retirement plaques was made by RTD Director Charles Storing at the November 14, 1985 Board Meeting. Those honored included (front row, from left to right): Division 18 Operator George Nahra, Division 3 Operator Paul L. McKay, Jr., Division 9 Operator Rodney L. Wooten, and Mail Carrier Jack Coleman, Jr. Back row, from left to right: Director Storing, General Manager John A. Dyer, and Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach.



The 1985 Third Quarter Safe Performance Awards were presented to Transportation Division 10 and Maintenance Division 4 by RTD Director Leonard Panish at the November 14, 1985 Board Meeting. Front row, from left to right: Director Panish, and accepting on behalf of their divisions were: Division 10 Assistant Manager B.J. Harris and Division 4 Supervisor II Max Martinez. Back row, from left to right: General Manager John A. Dyer and Safety Analyst Frank Larson.

## Division 8 Operators First for Accessible Service Award

The first Accessible Service Awards were presented November 7, 1985 to Division 8 Operators Sarah M. Vaillancourt and Penny A. Landis.

This award salutes outstanding operators who go beyond the normal standard in providing transportation service to senior and disabled passengers. Operators Landis and Vaillancourt were presented with special accessible service pins and certificates of appreciation signed by the chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee on Accessible Transportation, RTD Board Director John F. Day; General Manager John A. Dyer; Director of Transportation Ed Nash; and the operators' Division Manager Audrey Ortiz.

Vaillancourt works the Extra Board at Division 8 and is subject to work any line out of the division. Landis works a relief run on the 165 line. This particular line carries several handicapped patrons. Both have given 5 years of service to the District to date.

Vaillancourt believes she won the award on the recommendation of one of her passengers. "This particular passenger took about 5 buses to get

to work everyday. When she departed from the 93 bus, I would get off my bus after deploying my lift, walk across the street to get her, and wheel her over to my bus," said Vaillancourt. She has received several letters of commendation and 70 merits.

Landis also has many letters of commendation to her credit along with 90 merits and a reputation for being patient, helpful, and concerned.

Division Manager Audrey Ortiz believes both Landis and Vaillancourt are valuable assets to the District. "I'm proud to be the manager of these two outstanding operators," said Mrs. Ortiz.

The criteria for an Accessible Service Award requires an operator to comply with the following during the quarter for which the award is made:

- Documented commendation by an elderly and/or disabled person and the recommendation by his or her division manager.
- Accumulation of no more than three instances of sick time, missouts, and unexcused absences, not to exceed a combined total of seven.

—No suspensions.

—No chargeable accidents.

—No chargeable passenger

complaints.

—No rule violations.

—No indefinite leave.



The first operators to receive the RTD Accessible Service Operator of the Quarter Award were Division 8 Operators Sarah Vaillancourt and Penny Landis. The operators were presented their awards by RTD Director John F. Day at the Ad Hoc Committee on Accessible Transportation Meeting held November 7, 1985. Front row, from left to right: Director Day, Operator Sarah Vaillancourt, Division 8 Transportation Manager Audrey Ortiz, and Operator Penny Landis. Back row, left to right: General Manager John A. Dyer and Director of Transportation Ed Nash.

# Division "Safety Days" on Road

The Safety Department began their traveling Safety Awareness Day Campaign on November 20, 1985 at Division 1. The department intends to bring "Safety Day" to all 15 divisions.

A full day of safety related activities is offered. Presentations include slide shows and distribution of safety materials that focus on promoting safe operations in Transportation and Maintenance divisions.

Presentations by local law enforcement agencies, safety talks by key operations departments, and facility inspections are also part of the day.

The highpoint of the day is the Safety Awards Luncheon at which time Transportation and Maintenance employees will receive commendations for their records of safe performance.



Three employees from Division 1 were presented with certificates of merit at the Safety Awards luncheon held November 20, 1985. Front row, from the left: Assistant to the General Manager David Dominguez, Operator Lonnie Anders for a 22-year safe performance record; Mechanic B Pearlene Ridgeway for a 6-year safe performance record; and Mechanic Marco Delgadillo for a 7-year safe performance record; and Division 1 Maintenance Manager John Adams. Back row, from the left: Safety Director Joseph Reyes, Division 1 Transportation Manager Larry Johnson, and Assistant Manager C. Coleman.

# Top Operators for October

The awards for the Operator Recognition Program for the month of October were announced in the latter part of November. The presentations include the Manager's Award and the Sweepstakes Award. The program has as its purpose to recognize and reward the many bus operators who consistently perform in an outstanding manner.

The theme of the program is "In Pursuit of Excellence." Those operators excelling in their pursuit are listed below.

### MANAGER'S AWARD

Division	Recipient
3201	Henry H. Bassett
3203	Willie R. Randle
3205	Hilton H. Hackley
3206	Audrey F. Alexander
3207	Dillard H. Leslie
3208	Margarita Arancibia
3209	Wordrow Williams
3210	Walter A. Venegas
3212	David M. Wooden
3215	Patrick R. Hogan
3216	John W. Kemp
3218	John A. Peterson

### SWEEPSTAKES AWARD

Division	Winner
3201	Javier Antimo
	Anderson V. Washington
3203	Romula Contreras
	Crisanto P. Simbulan
3205	Warren R. Stockton
	Jody M. Garrett
3206	Mary E. White
3207	George L. Johnson
	Billy C. Henry
3208	Terry J. Davis
3209	David I. Hamilton
	Dan D. Urban
3210	Robert Jurgens
	William E. Durazo
3212	Paul L. Hooten
3215	Edward M. Rause
3216	Rudy M. Alvarez
3218	B.W. Robertson
	Jimmie Land

## Division 8 Hosts Show

# Christmas Crafts For Sale

Transportation Division 8's Christmas Boutique opened to the public on December 5. "All the crafts on display were handmade by employees, their wives, or family members of RTD employees," said Manager Audrey Ortiz.

Organized by Division Steno Diane Collins, the crafts show has been in the planning since July. Collins' own handiwork of miniature Christmas trees encased in bell jars were on sale at the show.

"Our first customers of the day were Supervisor Jesse Davis and his wife. They spent \$66. We were very excited," said Collins.

Contributors to the annual crafts boutique included: **Operator Amy Arkow** - stuffed reindeer, decorated baskets, hoops, and bear cookie jars; **Re Thibault** (wife of Operator Ron Thibault) - needlepoint pillows and manger scene; **Perline Smith** (wife of Operator Leonard Smith) - decorated hair accessories; **Operator Nita Northington-Banks** - decorated baskets with pine cones, and she also ran the popcorn concession; **Operator Cheryl Crockett** - hoops, decorated hair clips, and Christmas trees; **Deborah Morgan** (daughter of Operator Bob Morgan) - clothes, evening wear, and sweatshirts; **Operator Donald Owen** - wood toys, doll furniture, and children's tables and chairs; **Donna Saldana** (wife of Operator Jesus Saldana) - painted china, vases, and bells; **Barbara Colbert** (wife of Instructor Charles Colbert) - knitted slippers; **Sherry Pratt** (wife of Operator Ron Pratt) along with her husband's mother and her own mother - Christmas penguins, tree ornaments, handmade bears, and bags of mistletoe; **Operator Charles Robinson** and his son **Troy** - mirrors with acid-etched designs; and **Steno Diane Collins** - Christmas trees under glass domes, decorated sleighs, and baskets.

Some of the proceeds from the crafts show went toward Division 8's Christmas party. Each vendor donated \$10.



Operator Amy Arkow shows off her stuffed reindeer, embroidered hoops, and lace screens at Division 8's crafts boutique.



Operator Nita Northington-Bank hoists her creations - Christmas baskets.



Debbie Lee gathered up all her pebble-pets for the show.



Re Thibault displays her skill with needlepoint craft.



Steno Diane Collins, organizer of the boutique, offers one of her Christmas trees under glass.



Manager Audrey Ortiz' two-year-old grandson, Mitchell, guards the fascinating miniature Christmas trees.

# Bob Falvey To Retire



South Parks' Superintendent of Maintenance Bob Falvey retired January 10, 1986 after almost 40 years of service to the District. Described by his employees as the perfect gentleman in his white shop coat, he is certain to be missed.

Director Gordana Swanson

# She Brought Transit to the Peninsula

When it comes to transportation, RTD Board Vice President and Director Gordana Swanson can become intense on the subject. She represents the Coastal, South Bay, and Peninsula beach cities whose folks this reporter has traditionally stereotyped as laid-back and sun-bleached to mellowness. However, Mrs. Swanson's occupation with getting things rolling contradicts such stereotypical notions.



Having grown up in Yugoslavia, Mrs. Swanson was used to public transportation as the only way to go. She left Rijeka, Yugoslavia in 1956 and moved to Chicago, Illinois. "When I lived in Chicago, again I got around totally on public transportation. I did not own a car, I didn't know how to drive and I didn't need to. It never occurred to me that I would do anything but ride the train or bus." Four years later, Mrs. Swanson moved to California, the land of freeways, and by necessity, automobiles.

"What hit me was, in the Palos Verdes Peninsula at least, a person does not have a choice about mobility. My life was neither convenient nor comfortable without an automobile. The thought was always in the back of

my mind that something needed to be done about it."

It was in 1976 when Mrs. Swanson got her first opportunity to do something about it. Following her election to the Rolling Hills City Council, she was appointed to the Palos Verdes Peninsula Transportation Committee.

Once on the committee, she had the chance to educate RTD management of the needs of the Peninsula community while at the same time informing the community of the potential service improvements available to them. It was Mrs. Swanson's concern that led her to chair this committee for the next seven years.

The result of her leadership was the successful implementation of RTD service on the Peninsula tailored to its needs. One of the service requirements included the transport of small surfboards on buses. Mrs. Swanson was named Citizen of the Year by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club for bringing transportation to the Peninsula. She was mayor of Rolling Hills in 1979-1980.

She decided that a seat on the RTD Board of Directors had to be the next proving ground for a transportation activist. After what she described as a very rough and tough campaign, Mrs. Swanson won her seat representing Corridor B of the City Selection Committee. Corridor B is comprised of 19 cities extending from the South Bay to West Hollywood, including Culver City, Beverly Hills, and Santa Monica.

The rigors of her campaign made her eventual victory all the sweeter, especially when she learned she'd won by a landslide. "That was a very happy day in my life. In politics you quickly learn that you can't win them all, but when you do win it's the highest high you can have. No matter what you win, whether it is an election or just an argument over an agenda item, it's a real high."

Mrs. Swanson's enthusiasm for her work on the RTD Board has not waned since her election in 1981. She continues to be impressed by the scope of the RTD's service and the performance of its employees four years later. "The RTD is a high-powered organization with a fine executive staff and dedicated employees."

She believes the District has in the last two years bridged a communication gap with the public. "The negative publicity heaped on the RTD by the press and the public has dramatically diminished," said Mrs. Swanson, "because of our improved performance." Like a team coach much too cautious to get cocky after one winning season, Mrs. Swanson contends the District still has a way to go. "We are good, but it is not enough. We must continue to achieve excellence. This is an important component of the direction in which we are going."

Mrs. Swanson sees the public's perception of RTD performance as the determining factor of any need for improvement. "Whether in the Board Room or behind the wheel, we must be sensitive to those we serve."

She sees as an achievable goal, fine tuning the precision of present services coupled with the constant monitoring of cost containment. "The RTD is really going places. We have the know-how to run a bus transit agency that is unmatched."

Mrs. Swanson is convinced that the RTD's regional system for the geographic area is the only sensible solution to meet existing transportation needs. "The Los Angeles region is such a complex service area. History has shown that fragmented services do not work in the area."

Should privatization take off as a trend in Los Angeles, Mrs. Swanson predicts the District will provide the leadership role in coordinating the services in the region with other municipalities and private carriers.



As an RTD Board Director, Mrs. Swanson's personal agenda includes seeing all 18 miles of Metro Rail built. "I can hardly wait to get on that train when it starts going. I've ridden on so many heavy rail systems all over the world and I've always felt that it just doesn't seem right that we who deserve it so much can't have one."

As generous in her praise as Mrs. Swanson is of the RTD and its expertise and performance, she is just as complimentary of her colleagues on the Board. "The Board is an introspective lot — not rubber stampers. We respect what staff brings to us but we always question it. The Board of Directors is a creative, hard-working group and I've always felt there exists a good chemistry among us."

When Mrs. Swanson is not actively stumping for transportation, she unwinds with her favorite recreational form of transportation — horseback riding. She and her husband, Leonard, a physician in nuclear medicine associated with the Hospital of the Good Samaritan, and their two children, reside in Rolling Hills. Mrs. Swanson credits her family's support as the sustaining underpinning that enables her to champion her cause of transportation. "My husband is the joy of my life, my best friend. He supports me in whatever I do."

## Kenneth Hahn Day Celebrated at District



Honored at the November 7, 1985 Board Meeting, Supervisor Kenneth Hahn was presented with a resolution commemorating his endeavors in public transit. A formal copy of the resolution was presented to the supervisor by, from left to right, Assemblyman Mike Roos, RTD Board President Nick Patsouras, Supervisor Hahn, RTD Director Nate Holden, and General Manager John A. Dyer.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn (Second District) was presented with legislative honors at the November 7, 1985 Board of Directors Meeting.

The California Senate and Assembly recently passed resolutions honoring Supervisor Hahn for his 37 years of public service and for spearheading the drive in 1980 to gain voter approval of Proposition A, a local half-cent sales tax for transit improvements in Los Angeles County. In his honor, the Legislature renamed Proposition A the Kenneth Hahn Act. RTD directors last July passed a similar resolution calling for the renaming of Proposition A in recognition of Supervisor Hahn's longtime support for public transit. The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission Chairperson Jacki Bacharach attended the ceremonies honoring Hahn to present him with a tiny tractor, symbolic of ground-breaking for rail projects in Los Angeles County.



Los Angeles County Transportation Commission Chairperson Jacki Bacharach acknowledges Supervisor Hahn's contribution to transit by presenting him with a miniature tractor at the November 7, 1985 Board Meeting.

# To Your Health

## Prevention of Cold Injury

The wind is blowing, the snow is drifting, and you're exhausted after spending all these hours in the mountains. You haven't eaten since breakfast except for the two beers you just finished. *You may be in trouble.* Your risk of serious injury can be right around the corner.

The risk of injury is increased by your body's loss of heat while coming in contact with cold conducting materials like metal or wet clothing, the windchill factor, and lack of protection against the cold. The risk is complicated when any person exposed to severe cold suffers from some form of heart or circulatory illness, is very young or very old. Exhaustion, hunger, and/or excessive use of alcohol also impairs the circulation and impairs good judgment.

### Prevent Injury from the Cold

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure is appropriate in dressing for the cold. It is not the weight of clothes that gives protection, it is the materials and construction of the clothing that makes them appropriate for wearing in freezing or near freezing temperatures.

Look for lightweight and insulated clothes. Use the multilayered approach to your clothes, i.e., a camisole, a turtleneck, a sweater, then a jacket. Avoid constricting your waist,



by Elia Hager  
Visiting Nurse

wrists, ankles, and feet. Remember, you need good circulation to reduce the risk of frostnip or frostbite. Wearing a cap and a set of insulated gloves will conserve the body heat while protecting the head and hands. The exposed areas of your face should be protected by a light film of Vaseline and in sub-freezing temperatures a ski-mask should be worn.

Prolonged exposure to the damp-cold temperatures around freezing or dry-cold temperatures below freezing can cause serious injury and even death. Be aware, be

careful, and take preventive measures when you will be exposed to low temperatures. When you plan an outing to the snow eat properly, dress properly, and know when to come in from the cold.

### Treatment for Severe Cold Injury

Remember when we were told to rub snow on a frostbite? Well, we no longer do that for any injury caused by severe cold.

Research has shown that damage to tissues is reduced when the area of frostnip or frostbite is rapidly rewarmed. And the best method of rewarming is a warm bath. The temperature of the water should be hot to the elbow but bearable. Hot drinks are recommended to raise the core temperature. Care should be taken not to burn the affected areas.

Exposure to cold diminishes feeling so that the skin must be protected from burns whatever method of rewarming is used.

If you are in a camping environment and without hot water and electricity, rewarming is best accomplished by snuggling. The best method of snuggling for rewarming is placing the affected person in a sleeping bag with all wet/damp clothing removed and one or two companions getting in the sleeping bag — rewarming will occur rapidly.



## Playing Safely With Toys

The toys that you give your children are, no doubt, selected carefully and lovingly. But what delights a child today can hurt him or her the week after.

Toys from reputable manufacturers comply with safety standards set by Toy Manufacturers of America and the National Bureau of Standards; still, improper play can render them unsafe. So it's important for parents to watch and guide little ones as they play so that they will develop safe play habits.

Toy Manufacturers of America has developed this guide for parents to help them help their children to play safely with toys.

*Parents should set good examples.* Look for and carefully read instructions that accompany toys, and make sure your child understands them. This results in safer play and longer toy life.

*Supervise your child's play.* The degree of supervision will vary with the child's age, the type of play, and the toy involved — but it's important that you teach your child safe play habits and ensure that toys are being properly used.

*Help develop a sense of responsibility* by showing your child how to care for his or her toys.

*Provide proper storage* for toys when your child is finished playing, and teach your child to put toys away. Special toy shelves and chests will provide longer life for playthings by protecting them from damage, and children and adults will be protected from possible injury.

# Operator Gets Her Act Together

Division 8 Operator Sarah Vaillancourt's life in the past year sounds like the *Rocky I* screenplay—a down-and-out going nowhere who gets the courage to go the distance.

Sarah was one of two female operators recently to be presented with the first Accessible Service Award. This award honors outstanding operators for going beyond the average in providing transportation service to senior and disabled passengers.

Division 8 Manager Audrey Ortiz thinks highly of Sarah. "She has maintained an excellent accident and attendance record. Her friendly, courteous, caring, and professional attitude when dealing with her passengers, particularly the handicapped, makes her a valuable asset to the District," said Ortiz.

Sarah will be the first to tell you that it wasn't always that way. She remembers her personal problems getting in the way of professional performance. Sarah was a compulsive over-eater and drug abuser.

"I went through the EAP program for help with my weight problem. I weighed 206 pounds (she is 5'6") and I felt miserable. I was getting write-ups, missouts, and I used to have all these hassles with my passengers," said Sarah.

Sarah was using diet pills to control her weight. She smoked marijuana to lessen the anxiety-producing effects of the diet pills, which increased her appetite. She then ate, gained more weight, and found herself caught up in a vicious cycle. "I was suicidal the day I went to talk with



Why is this woman smiling? Operator Sarah M. Vaillancourt beat the odds.

my Manager Audrey Ortiz. She gave me the number for the EAP. From that day on my whole life changed. The therapy has enabled me to deal with my feelings. I think the EAP's the best thing the RTD's ever done for us."

Sarah is grateful she still had enough self-worth to ask her manager for help. She's proud of her accomplishments. "I feel so good now. I had to share this with Audrey. I went into her office and hugged her and thanked her for helping me."

Today, Sarah enjoys her work and her passengers. She has lost 45 pounds and hopes to lose 30 more. Her goal is to reach 130 pounds. "Now everything's going better because I'm better. I take out my frustrations and my stress on an exercise bike or with a good workout at the gym, not on the people riding the bus."

Sarah says she feels as if a new person has come out since she began

her therapy six months ago. "When your head is full of drugs, you can't think straight. You think you can, but you can't. It's a different world when you're straight. When I was using I was always frightened that somehow I might embarrass my husband (an employee at another division) through my actions. It's very freeing to not have to worry about that anymore."

Being clean and sober is not the only change Sarah's made in her lifestyle. She laughs when she says she's turned into a rabbit because of her new eating habits that include lots of raw vegetables. "It's not dieting, it's learning how to eat. If anybody wants to lose weight this EAP program is the best one-on-one program around." Sarah also quit smoking and works out in her gym everyday.

Her new lifestyle has had quite an effect on her attitude, Sarah notes. "I've been able to deal with extraordinary situations in ways I never thought I was capable of. For instance, I had a man who committed suicide by ramming my bus head on with his car. Because I was drug-free I was able to deal with it calmly and normally. I took care of my passengers; none of them were hurt. Afterwards I did have recurrent dreams about the situation, but that passed. It's okay now."

She's definitely gotten her act together and doing well with it on the road, but sees that there's always going to be room for improvement. "I'm trying to get Operator of the Year. If I make it and I know I have a chance, that'll be my accomplishment for the year." Bet on this lady, she's a winner.

### EAP Corner

## Have Show Will Travel

Don Karlson, newly appointed manager at Division 3205 is concerned about RTD employees and their problems. Mr. Karlson wishes to ensure that all operators and other employees in his division are aware of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and the UTU union's extension of the EAP program, the Member's Assistance Program (MAP).

Karlson invited the EAP coordinator Luanna Urie, and MAP Field Representative Tommy Brown to explain how these programs work and how they may be utilized by operators and their immediate families.

This program includes a film used in EAP supervisory sessions called *The Troubled Employee*. This excellent film depicts the problems and solutions shared by supervisors, union representatives, and the employee's family when an employee has a problem big enough to interfere with job performance.

In conjunction with the program, Brown presents some specific information related to drug and alcohol abuse. EAP/MAP brochures and pamphlets giving special information related to drug abuse, alcoholism, and other problems are also available.

This program is available to any division. Simply dial (818) 708-7790 (EAP) or extension 6450 (Personnel) for further information.

# Association Observes Filipiniana Night

The SCRTD Filipino Employees Association celebrated with a host of other District guests their second annual Filipiniana Night at the Hyatt Regency on November 30.

Following dinner Senior Secretary Carmelita Romero led everyone in the singing of the *Star Spangled Banner* and the Philippine anthem, *Pambansang Awit Ng Pilipinas*.

The principal officers of the association, President Emilio Estepa and Vice-President Sal Herras extended greetings to members, their families, and special guests General Manager John A. Dyer and his wife, Director of MIS Robert G. Pentek and his wife, and COMTO President-LA Chapter Duane Johnson.

The association's business manager, Archie Balolong introduced General Manager John A. Dyer who offered words of support to the organization that inducted its first board of officers in June, 1985.

In a presentation by Art Santiago and Lulu Asuncion, General Accounting Manager Josie Nicasio was presented with the award of the Most Outstanding SCRTD Filipino Employee of 1985.

Cultural entertainment in the form of traditional dance, choreographed by Systems Project Leader Joe Vicente and his wife Lita, was performed by employees Aida Lagrimas, Sollie Arriola, Ernie Navarro, Dennis Rodill, Gene Villacorta, Art Conoza, Isagani Saguin, and Elen Andrian.



Enjoying Filipiniana Night were (from the left): General Accounting Manager Josie Nicasio, chosen Most Outstanding SCRTD Filipino Employee of the Year; Mrs. Beth Dyer, General Manager John A. Dyer, Systems Project Manager Joe Vicente, and Contracts Administrator Duane Johnson.



Senior Secretary Carmelita Romero leads the audience in the singing of the American and Filipino National anthems at the Filipiniana Night held November 30, 1985, by the SCRTD Filipino Employees Association.



Employees perform the *Pandango sa Ilaw* at Filipiniana Night.

The dance, *Pandango sa Ilaw* or Dance of the Lights, is a Filipino folk dance of courtship. Each woman dances carrying two candles while balancing a third on her head. The candle on the woman's head is meant to symbolize the male's heart. Through the dance she is encouraged to take care of it and not let it break—both the light and his heart.

The cultural sharing concluded when Senior Accountant Romy Reyes delivered closing remarks. At the close of the program all attendees were invited to dance to the contemporary sound of Shirley Hogue's "91 Band." And they did until about 1:30 a.m.

## WTS Boosts Transit Careers

by Pat Van Mater

Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) is looking for more members to join the Los Angeles Chapter. A national organization with chapters in eighteen metropolitan areas, WTS is dedicated to advancing the careers of professionals in transportation. Over two thousand women and men are WTS members. The local roster of 95 members includes RTD Director Carmen Estrada and Transportation Superintendent Leilia Bailey.

At monthly meetings of its members and guests, held in different locations throughout Los Angeles, WTS has hosted an impressive line-up of speakers in its two years. Members and guests have met with Judith Hopkinson, chair of the California Transportation Commission; U.S. Congressman Glenn Anderson; Elizabeth Armstrong, president of the L.A. Airport Commission; Geraldine Knatz, manager of environmental planning for the Port of Long Beach; Tom Schumacher, executive vice president, California Trucking Association; and Richard Katz, chairman of the California State Assembly Transportation Committee. The upcoming speaker for January is Ezunial (E.Z.) Burts, executive director of the Los Angeles Ports.

In addition to providing a network of other professionals, WTS offers career assistance through its job bank. As a free membership service, Jim Clarke, managing associate of the executive search firm of Korn/Ferry sends the resumes of interested WTS members to appropriate, prospective employers.

In the search to expand the roster of over 95 WTS members, L.A. Chapter President Nancy Leon says that WTS welcomes both members of public and private sector transportation.

Annual membership in WTS is \$25, which includes the local and national newsletter subscriptions, and information about the national conference, membership directory, awards programs, and job bank. Leon, a senior engineer with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, can be contacted for WTS meeting and membership information at (818) 577-9212.

Pat Van Mater is the Manager, Local Assistance with the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission.

## Lady Laborer Picks Up Skill

To Laborer A Christine B. Phillips working on the paving crew out of Vernon Yard is not a man's job, it's just a job and anybody could do it. "I enjoy it, and I do think anybody can get out and do this kind of work. I mean, what does everybody think the women were doing during World War II when all the men were gone?"

When she started at Vernon Yard, half the men didn't want her to come. They had a meeting and discussed it. That was two years ago. "Now I am just part of the crew. It's no big deal. I'm not taking anything away from any man. I have two kids at home to support," said Christine.

As part of the paving crew, she helps lay asphalt and cement and uses heavy machinery that includes a Caterpillar, a skip-loader, a dump truck, a 10-gear Mack truck, a steam roller, and an 80-pound jack hammer.

This is Christine's first experience as a manual laborer. She was first an operator and then briefly a service attendant. "The things we do as a crew I never used to think about. I took it for granted that the work was done, but by whom and how never concerned me."

Christine's crew does all the moving, hoisting, and paving. "I remember when I first had to lay cement at a division. After we had set up the frames, I asked the lead where the cement truck was. He looked at me like I thought I was some kind of princess. At the District we mix our own cement. We also mix up our own tar for asphalt." She is proud of all the

skills she has acquired in the last two years.

Christine's latest assignment was to re-pave at Division 12. "To get started you jack-hammer up all the old asphalt. Then you get your skip-loader to load out all the old asphalt. When you get to the earth foundation you tamp or level it with a steam-roller. This is followed by pouring the asphalt. I mean hot asphalt!"

What's next for Christine? She is ambitious to move up the ladder. She's got her eye on a Property Maintainer C job, the next level up from her own job. "I just want to keep moving up. The next thing you know I'll be a department manager. At the RTD you can get in and move."



It's all in a day's work to Laborer Christine B. Phillips sitting atop the world in her skip-loader.

## First Art Show Held at District

The first RTD Art Exhibition was held November 4-6 in the Headquarters Building Cafeteria. Twenty amateur artists and photographers entered their paintings, drawings, and photographs for viewing during the 3-day show.

The idea for the art show was the brainchild of Planner Michael Brewer. "After many conversations with other employees who had professional art experience or training, I had the feeling that there were lots of people at the District who were artistically inclined but had no way to showcase their talent," said Brewer. Brewer managed to interest the Employee Activities Department in doing all the advertising, and the first art show was born.

The paintings and drawings on view included still lifes, landscapes, figures, and several spectacular Japanese brush art wall hangings done by Raphael Chang. Other artists included Anne Adelman, Michael Brewer, Deborah Diamond, Desiree Wiley, Ray Garcia, Lana Walton, and Susan Bailey. Photographers included Leo Bevon, Rick Carron, Susan Chapman, David Coffey, Lou Cherene, Jim Falcon, Rex Gephart, Carolyn Kinkead, Mary Martinez, Rudolph Martinez, Gloria Reiley, and Bill Kreski.

Brewer said that because the show received such a positive reception, it will be presented on an annual basis.



# Alumni Support the Fund

Velma Marshall made lifelong friends, and established a solid educational foundation for future endeavors.

Ray Thomas got the personal attention that developed self-confidence.

Roy Barnes received preparation for dealing with the world.

These three are among many RTD employees who benefitted from attending predominantly black colleges.

The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is a primary source of support for 43 black colleges and universities which provide quality, affordable education to 45,000 students. Again this year, RTD employees will be able to give to the UNCF through United Way's Donor Designation Program.

RTD employees who attended these colleges are good examples of the value of such a contribution.

Velma Marshall, assistant director of Real Estate & Development, is a business education graduate of Atlanta's Clark College, one of the educational institutions supported by UNCF. While working for the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority she attended and graduated from the Atlanta Law School. Velma joined RTD in 1983 after working on the Downtown People Mover project, and the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee.

"The UNCF contributions helped Clark College operate at a quality standard," says Velma. "It is very important to give future generations the opportunity of attending a school like Clark. The personal attention and close relationships made a big difference, especially for students from small towns." While Velma didn't need the extra help, because she came from a family that stressed educational achievement, Clark has an Upward Bound program to help high school students make the transition from high school to a more rigorous study environment.

Velma made lifelong friends at Clark, both with her classmates and instructors. She joined the AKA sorority and formed a bond that is life lasting. "AKA provided a support network while I was in school and a career network now." Velma now serves on the local UNCF Advisory Board.



RTD employees in support of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) — From the left: Assistant Project Control Engineer Roy Barnes, Jr., Assistant Director of Real Estate & Development Velma Marshall, and Transit Police Sergeant Ray Thomas.

Ray Thomas, a sergeant with the RTD Transit Police, is another graduate of a UNCF-supported college, Huston-Tillotson, located in Austin, Texas. Ray graduated with a physical educational major and a minor in biology. He served in Korea before joining the Los Angeles Parks and Recreation Department. Ray started as a driver with RTD in 1959, then transferred to the Special Agent department in 1969. He was in the first class in the Police Academy when the RTD Transit Police Department was established.

"I came from the small West Texas town of San Angelo, and didn't feel secure enough to attend a 'big' university," he says. Like Velma, Ray feels that the nurturing and the close relationships developed with both fellow students and faculty have been big dividends in his life.

Roy Barnes, Jr. well remembers his years in Southern University. "We had a very strict honor code. If you saw someone cheating and didn't report it, you could be punished too." Roy is, an assistant project control engineer at the District. He has a BS in Civil Engineering, and a Masters from Cal State Long Beach. He taught at Cal State for 4 years at night after receiving his degree.

"Southern University prepared you as a minority for what you had to deal with in the world," says Roy. Close bonds also developed. "I still telephone faculty and student friends. While teaching at Cal State I

couldn't develop much rapport with my students, because the classes were just too large."

Some people wonder why we should continue to have predominantly black colleges and universities. While UNCF schools are predominantly black, all races are actively sought. In fact Xavier University's College of Pharmacology has a 50 percent non-black enrollment. Black students have unique needs, and these colleges were set up to meet those needs. In a major study conducted with the support of the Carnegie Foundation, Dr. Jacqueline Fleming concluded, "Black colleges appear to effectively impart the orientation and skills that allow black students to function well in the larger society: aspiration, confidence, motivation, and the ability to enjoy competition in the integrated world. If we allow black colleges to serve as a stepping-stone for those who wish to become part of the larger society, these institutions might become a stronger aid to integration than ever imagined."

Velma, Ray, and Roy are just three of many RTD employees who attended a predominately black college. Currently, over 600 Southern California students attend UNCF-supported schools. You are encouraged to give generously to the United Negro College Fund. As their motto so well puts it, "A Mind Is A Terrible Thing To Waste." —Jerry Govits

## FM's Top Employees

Division 9 Electronic Communications Technician James Retamosa was selected as the Facilities Maintenance Employee for the Month of November. Retamosa works at the Radio Shop. He has been with the District five and one-half years. His supervisors say of him that he can always be counted on to get the job done. He does so with little fanfare and his work demonstrates the essence of true craftsmanship.

The sweepstakes winners for November were Vernon Yard's Paul Tassone and Phil Godwin. Both received tickets to a Lakers game.



Facilities Maintenance Employee of the Month James Retamosa.

## South Park's Top Employee



South Park Shops' Maintenance Employee of the Month of December is Mechanic A Samuel Gold. Gold has been with the District since 1980. Currently, he is assigned to the Refurbish Group.

# Soap Box Derby Buffs Can Now Race in Southland

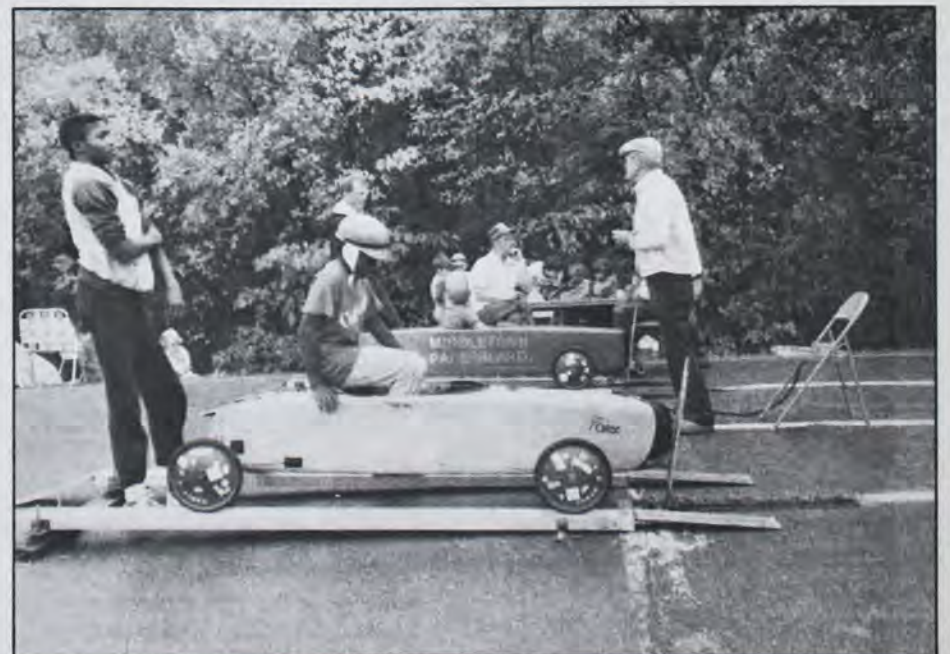
Soap Box Derby racing has been part of Americana since 1934. Today both girls and boys, ages 8 to 16, pilot their gravity-powered racers at speeds reaching 35 mph.

Modern Soap Box Derby racers are now assembled from a kit much like a large Christmas toy. A new racer can be purchased, assembled, and decorated for about \$250. The relatively simple racer assembly is a parent-child/adult-child project and can be accomplished with basic hand tools; racer costs can be met by getting a sponsor. Also, for many races "Loaner Cars" are available to new families for a "Thank You." Used, ready-to-race Soap Box Racers, can be purchased for as little as \$75.00.

Between the All-American Soap Box Derby Association and the National Derby Rally Association,

there are between six to eight Soap Box Races each year in the Southern California area. The races are "family affairs" including picnic lunches and pizza party award ceremonies. Local winners qualify for expense-paid trips to national races in Akron, Ohio and Fort Wayne, Indiana.

For more information contact: Kevin Evans (City of Rancho Cucamonga) (714) 980-2634. Bruce Fuwama (Cal Poly Pomona) (714) 596-7095. Ken Huthmaker (Lawndale City Hall) (213) 973-4321. Sergeant Howard Brust (L.A. County Sheriff's Dept.) (213) 974-6884. Jim Garrison (Regional Director All-American Soap Box Derby) Home (714) 538-9585, Business (714) 535-6061. Or write to: Sgt. Howard Brust, L.A. County Sheriff's Dept., 306 N. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90012.



Soap Box Derby contestants ready themselves at the starting line.

# RTD Picks and Pans the Movies



## Rating System

- \*\*\*\*\*—A once in a lifetime movie  
 \*\*\*\*—Terrific; worth paying full price for  
 \*\*\*—Average; does what it set out to do (i.e., entertain, scare, inform)  
 \*\*—Okay; get your date to pay  
 \*—I warned you  
 BOMB—Doomed from an early age to become a fixture on the Midnight to Dawn Movie

## King Solomon's Mines—BOMB

If you liked the old MGM version of *King Solomon's Mines* starring Stewart Granger and Deborah Kerr, take my advice and skip both the rest of this review and the movie, a blatant rip-off of *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. Ironically, the original book by H. Rider Haggard was one of George Lucas' inspirations for *Raiders*.

The basic plot: Jessie Houston is looking for her father, who has spent his life hunting for King Solomon's mine, and has now disappeared. She enlists the aid of Alan Quartermaine (Richard Chamberlain) and his faithful native retainer Bopa as guides. Unfortunately, a villainous Turk named Gotia and a ludicrous German Officer have her father in their possession and wish to learn the secret. Soon, by various plot devices, both good guys and bad guys have the information, and the race is on. We then proceed to suffer through over an hour of fights, chases, and not-so-daring escapes. The low point comes when Quartermaine is shoved off a train, onto the tracks. He lies flat, just narrowly avoiding the cars, then grabs a hanging chain, and is pulled along behind the train. Remember the scene in *Raiders* where Indiana Jones is dragged behind a truck? You get the idea.

The actors do their best with the material, but the material isn't much. It is only when the movie veers away from Indiana Jones territory, and returns to the H. Rider Haggard story (which is unfortunately seldom), that the viewer receives any satisfaction. John Rhys-Davies does a competent job as Gotia, but his role was better in *Shogun*, where he last played a foil for Chamberlain. Supposedly, the sequel to this was filmed at the same time, and will be in the theatres sometime later this year, but don't bother. Hopefully, by the time you read this review, it will have all faded into obscurity.

## Smooth Talk—\*\*\*\*

Ever wondered why there wasn't a female counterpart to the *Summer of '42* or all those films about young adolescent boys coming of age? Now, for those of you who have been waiting, *Smooth Talk* has arrived. Based on the story "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?" by Joyce Carol Oates, *Smooth Talk* is a realistic examination of a 15 year-old's love-hate relationship with her mother as she begins to pull away and discover her own identity and sexuality. The film is marked by excellent performances by Laura Dern as the daughter, and Mary Kay Place as the mother. Now showing at the Beverly Cineplex.

## Subway—\*\*\*\*

All the action in this very clever cops and robbers yarn, except for the frightening yet exciting 10-minute car chase that opens the film, takes place in the Paris Metro, R.A.T.P. Sometimes charming, suspenseful, farcical, and a bit campy in its punk fashion, this film is a must see for rail fans. I never knew all those different places existed in a subway station, and I kept thinking—what fun Metro Rail will be. I can't wait! The music is hip and an added attraction. A little English is actually spoken, but the dialogue is mostly French with English subtitles. Starring Christopher Lambert (star of *Greystoke*) and Isabelle Adjani, it is currently running at the Beverly Cineplex, and also appears on the schedule at some of the revival houses such as the Rialto in Pasadena and the Nuart in Santa Monica. Well worth the effort.

## Young Sherlock Holmes—\*\*\*\*

In 1893, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle sent his creation Sherlock Holmes tumbling off the cliff at Reichenbach Falls, locked in mortal combat with his arch-enemy the villainous Moriarty, and thought that he had seen the last of him. Alas, the public was outraged, and Doyle was forced to take up the pen once more. The popularity of the Great Detective has continued, long after Doyle's death, and the canon of Holmes stories has been added to by writers and readers who desired Holmes to return "just one more time." These novels and stories, known as "pastiche," are loving tributes to a literary hero who has somehow touched a chord in young and old alike.

*Young Sherlock* is the latest of these efforts, and the affection and respect held for Doyle's work is readily evident. The time is 1870, and the place is an exclusive English public school, where Holmes and Watson meet for the first time. (The canon, of course, lists their first meeting as

1881, when both were grown men, but the fun of pastiche is that you can play "What If...?") This is the London of pure imagination, where adventure waits on every street corner, and the fog lies low and menacing as darkness falls. We see our first glimpses of such familiar characters as Inspector Lestrade and watch as Holmes acquires some of those artifacts that have become so familiar. One of the best surprises comes at the very end, so it is wise to sit through the credits.

Nicholas Rowe is cast as Sherlock, and a better casting can not be imagined. Tall and lanky, his face is young and unlined, but you can see the features that will later become so familiar. Here is a Holmes who is only

beginning his career, who still makes mistakes in his deductions, and occasionally lets emotions get the better of him. Following solidly in Holmes' footsteps is Watson, played by Alan Cox, short and somewhat stout, curious and conservative as ever.

My only reservation in recommending this film is that it might not appeal to viewers who do not care for Holmes, or have only a marginal knowledge and interest. For the "Baker Street Irregulars" it is a glorious celebration that invites you back to another place, another time. The fog rolls in, carriages clatter on cobblestone streets, and a familiar voice cries, "Come, Watson. The game is afoot!"—Carolyn Kinkead

## Rapid Transit Word Search

by Dave Moore

### \*WORD LIST\*

BUS	LINE	SCHEDULE
DISPATCHER	OPERATOR	SUPERVISOR
HEADWAY	PASSENGER	TRANSFER
INSTRUCTOR	PUNCH	TRIPPER
LAYOVER	RUN	WHEEL

Y X B U S J R D G Z E Q R K E M C B A A  
 W H X J S Z G K O X Q K E Y Q Y P L B  
 M I V Q M H F V G H S W R E F S N A R T  
 M Z B S C R A P P L G S V O G U E I N I H  
 H E J Z Y V N T A J S W O O G N S V D D  
 H T P N D W M Y L I I M E W D T S J D I  
 O P E R A T O R V F F O D F R H I D N F  
 O C Z J G V L R N V H I Z E K Z C S Y J  
 D R M G E N E U F B S E G Y K K T U D F  
 X Q W R X P R K D P Y N A T X R T D X Z  
 D A Y N U Z Y T A U E P U D U P B V T O  
 O O J S F X V T L S Z W H C W S Q V O T  
 I E N I L I C H S V L H T M Y A X Y T B  
 F E F E V H M A F I U O P I I K Y H A Q  
 R I E O E U P X H O R B V E F X J V D D  
 E H H R L Z E C X Y J Y S J Y Q E X N G  
 W F N Z V G N T S C H E D U L E Z N C Q  
 N I G X G U K A J E Q W C D S F J E Q  
 S W S Q P I Z S P T P M P I F B O O W M  
 I R Y Z T R I P P E R N P I T V K M X H

## Sic Transit. . .

by Alex Pagès



# COMMENDATIONS & SHIFTING GEARS

## COMMENDATIONS

### Division 1

Garrison, George N.  
Kinkade, Dale E.  
Lopez, Lester  
Martinez, Ivan J.  
Miller, David J.  
Tucker, Joseph E.

### Division 3

Davis, Clifford L.  
Esquivel, Michael  
Halliburton, Loretta A.  
Hopkins, Harold W.  
Johnson, Ronald H.  
Mejia, Andres  
Potts, Raymond L.  
Thomas, Michael C.

### Division 5

Cormack, Jimmie R.  
Credit, Will H.  
Erving, Johnny R.  
Gary, Willie  
Hughes, Ronald J.  
Joshua, Joe  
Lewis, Patrick D.  
Luke, Gerald F.  
Smith, Shirley L.  
Poland, Jerome A.

### Division 6

Abner, Johnnie L.  
Banuelos, Carlos G.  
Green, Elijah A.  
Stroud, Vernon M.  
Winston, Patricia

### Division 7

Abdul-Majeed, Askia M.  
Anderson, George  
Del Cambre, Timothy D.  
Dillard, Reginald E.  
Evans, Albert  
Figueras, Henry  
Gwinn, Renee  
Hazley, Aubrey  
Johnson, Otis R.  
Johnson, Marvin W.  
Robinson, Kenya J.  
Washburn, Dennis  
Wilkins, Theodore R.

### Division 8

Buchanan, Robert C.  
Chatelain, W.A.  
Eckhart, C.J.  
Fitisemanu, David  
Gustin, Eddie L.  
Smith, Robert  
Werner, William P.  
Yassan, Behzad

### Division 9

Algarin, Miguel A.  
Anderson, Randy L.  
Burke, Michael D.  
Cordero, Anthony P.  
Delgado, Raul  
Dunn, Merlin  
Granado, Richard C.  
Kennedy, Edward J.  
Kosky, Michael L.  
Narvaez, Manuel M.  
Remond, David J.

### Division 10

Banks-Byrd, Elnora D.  
Jordan, Harold  
Kim, Jin E.  
McGuire, Diane M.  
Mims, Gloria J.  
Troy, Albert E.  
Villagran, S.J.

### Division 12

Fontoura, Julio C.  
Holguin, Seferino  
Tift, Bobby G.

### Division 15

Coleman, Connie  
Everett, Richard D.  
Horn, Clifford  
Jackson, William C.  
Le Vine, Lawrence R.  
Marshall, Ernest J.  
Mia, Ibrahim  
Patterson, Richard C.

### Division 16

Currington, Charlotte T.  
Lucas, K. M.

### Division 18

Cather, Donald R.  
Edwards, Leroy  
Hayes, Hubert W.  
Leslie, Linda  
Parker, Shelton L.  
Penn, Mark A.  
Saunders, Leon I.

## SHIFTING GEARS

**Fisher, Alexander**, an Operator since October 8, 1960, retired October 31, 1985.

**Hall, James**, an Operator since January 21, 1972, retired October 21, 1985.

**Muthleb, Keramith**, an Operator since November 12, 1960, retired November 16, 1985.

**Nahra, George**, an Operator since October 21, 1959, retired October 31, 1985.

**Silvestre, Dino**, an Operator since July 1, 1974, retired October 2, 1985.

**Vizzini, Roy**, an Operator since December 19, 1974, retired November 16, 1985.

## FOR SALE

1980 280-ZX Color: Silver with Blue Pin Stripes. App: 70,000 miles. AM, FM Cassette Stereo. Air Conditioning. Power Steering, Power Brakes, Cruise Control, All Extras. BRAR, Car Cover, Dash Cover, Louvers. \$7,500 or Best Offer. Renee Lieberman—extension 6285.

## SCHEDULE CHANGES

**Bellaflor, Clem S.**, from Auditor to Senior Auditor

**Benavente, Oscar**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Bottancino, Salvatore**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Brannon, Frank E.**, from Property Maintainer A to Property Maintainer A Leader.

**Calorino, S. C.**, from Acting Schedule Planner to Schedule Planner.

**Caswell, Donald F.**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Cosby, Robert C.**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Diaz, Carlos F.**, from Security Guard II to Transit Police Officer Trainee.

**Estrada, Frank V.**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Figueroa, Thomas B.**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Findley, James R.**, from Equipment Maintenance Instructor to Acting Division Maintenance Manager.

**Fleming, Ronald W.**, from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

**Flourney, Clayton**, from Transit Operations Supervisor to Acting Radio Dispatch Supervisor.

**Fuentes, Carlos**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Garcia, Daniel**, from Janitor to Mopper/Waxer.

**Gore, David M.**, from Information Clerk to Ticket Clerk.

**Haddon, Frank R.**, from Senior Facilities Maintenance Engineer to Supervising Engineer.

**Harder, William P.**, from Property Maintainer B to Property Maintainer A.

**Harvel, Paul T.**, from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

**Hernandez, Socorro C.**, from Typist Clerk to General Clerk.

**Hilliard, Wade J.**, from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

**Hummel, Thomas L.**, from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

**Jack, Franklin C.**, from Equipment Maintenance Supervisor II to Acting Division Maintenance Manager.

**Leahy, Michael O.**, from Equipment Engineering Manager to Maintenance Superintendent.

**McCain, Robert C.**, from Mopper/Waxer to Lead Mopper/Waxer.

**McKenzie, Shirley A.**, from Schedule Maker II to Senior Schedule Maker.

**Montes, Agustin**, from Ticket Clerk to Stock Clerk.

**Moore, Monnie**, from Senior Schedule Maker to Schedule Planner.

**Morton, Richard J.**, from Division Maintenance Manager to Rail Maintenance Superintendent.

**Ochiai, Hiroshi**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Ortiz, Miguel**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Perdon, Albert H.**, from Assistant to the General Manager to Acting Assistant General Manager of Planning and Communications.

**Ruiz, Francisco E.**, from Janitor to Mopper/Waxer.

**Sohrab, Sepehr**, from Programmer Assistant to Programmer.

**Thomas, Felix**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Wang, Jimmy Y.**, from Programmer to Programmer Analyst.

**Villalobos, Ray J.**, from Transit Operations Supervisor to Acting Assistant Vehicle Operations Manager.

**Yacobucci, Victor J.**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

## BIRTHS



This photo is included in this issue for the graphic instruction of all readers who are not quite sure what a truly beautiful baby looks like. Pictured above is Carlo Anthony Pappano-Reyna born November 13, 1985 weighing 9 lbs., 1/2 oz. and 20 inches long. His very proud aunt is Headway Editor Mary E. Reyna. She also has pictures in color for those interested.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Dzierlatka, Verana**, began with the District October 6, 1962, retired as a Ticket Clerk, passed away November 13, 1985.

**Esters, William**, began with the District March 12, 1959, retired as a Transit Police Officer, passed away November 3, 1985.

**Hein, Louis**, began with the District January 20, 1943, retired as an Operator, passed away October 9, 1985.

**Johnson, David**, began with the District November 29, 1950, retired as a Mechanic, passed away October 31, 1985.

**Savin, John**, began with the District February 16, 1957, retired as an Operator, passed away November 14, 1985.

**Shaefer, Edward**, began with the District April 10, 1956, retired as an Operator, passed away October 21, 1985.

**Warburton, Edward**, began with the District September 25, 1944, retired as an Operator, passed away November 8, 1985.



HIT's Christmas  
Gladys Hudson and Shirley Mitchell



# HEADWAY

## BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY

### JANUARY/FEBRUARY RECREATION NEWS

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Lakers Games \$9.50                        | January 29 Kings vs Minnesota    |
| Colonnade Seats for \$7.50                 | February 8 Kings vs New York     |
| January 28 Lakers vs Milwaukee             | February 9 Kings vs Calgary      |
| January 31 Lakers vs Philadelphia (\$9.50) | February 12 Kings vs Quebec      |
| February 1 Lakers vs New York              | February 15 Kings vs Washington  |
| February 14 Lakers vs Atlanta              | Lazers Soccer Half Priced        |
| February 16 Lakers vs Boston               | Senate Seats \$7.00              |
| Kings Senate Seats \$50.00 for \$25.00     | January 17 Lazers vs Baltimore   |
| January 21 Kings vs St. Louis              | January 24 Lazers vs Kansas City |
| January 23 Kings vs St. Louis              | January 26 Lazers vs Pittsburgh  |
|  | February 1 Lazers vs Minnesota   |
|  | February 9 Lazers vs Wichita     |
|  | February 26 Lazers vs Cleveland  |

#### Other Events

- February 22 Whalewatch 1:30 pm  
\$5.75 per person
- February 28—Golden Nugget  
March 2 \$90.00 per person

Southern California Rapid Transit District  
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## RTD HEADWAY

Published monthly for the employees and retirees of the Southern California Rapid Transit District.

Editorial input and suggestions welcome. Deadline for receipt of editorial copy is the 5th of each month. Send black-and-white photographs only, please. Requests for photographic coverage of District events must be preceded by 72 hours notice.

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