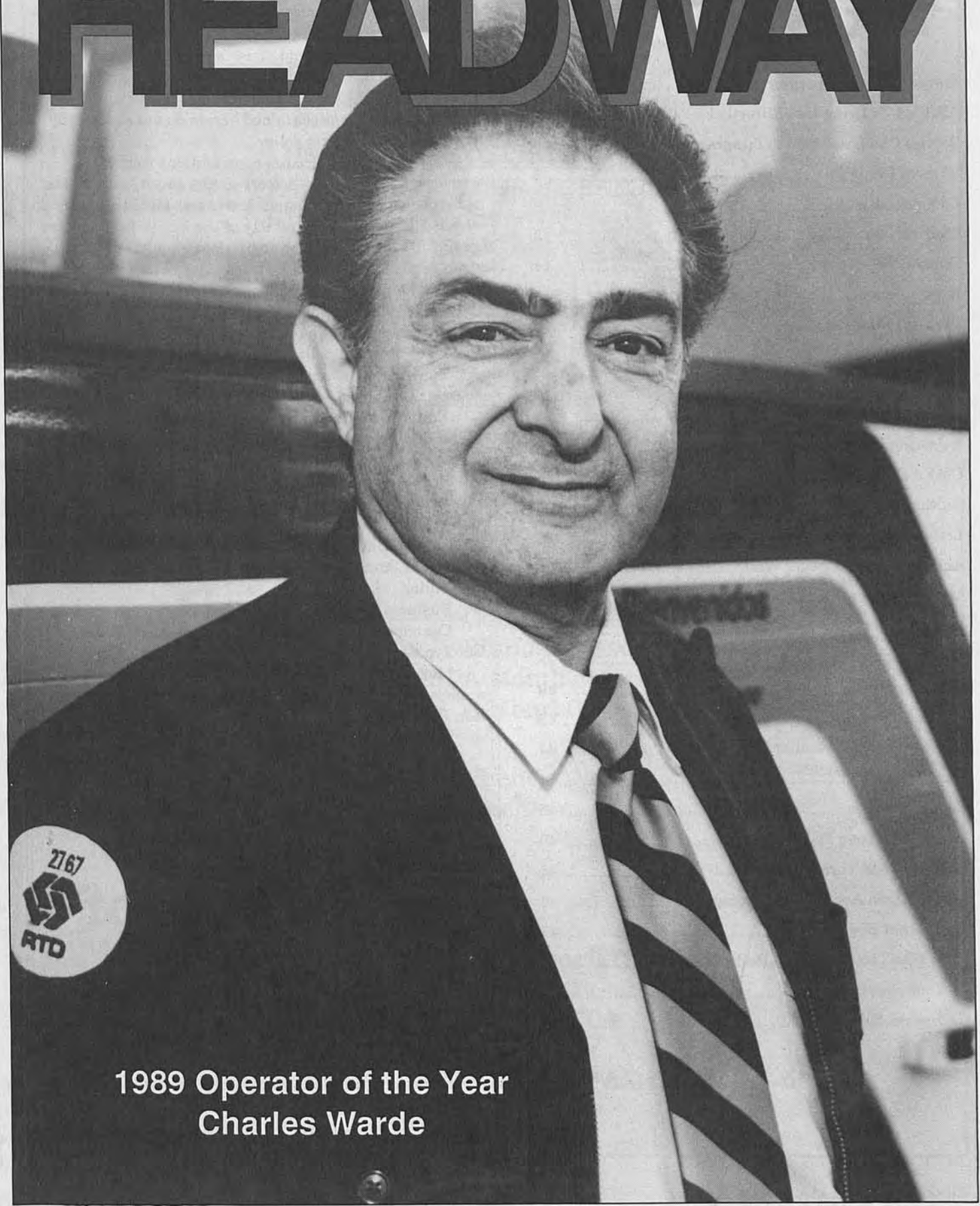


HEADWAY



1989 Operator of the Year
Charles Warde

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The Headway . . .

is published by the Southern California Rapid Transit District for the employees, retirees, and its friends every month. *Headway* is guided by a policy approved by the General Manager and published in the Human Resources Policy Manual. A copy is available on request.

Views and opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect official District policy.

The *Headway* welcomes contributions from RTD employees and retirees--letters to the editor, story ideas, opinions, employee and staff activities, and other submissions. Deadline is the first day of the month for inclusion in the following month. Submissions should be typed double-space and signed by the author or on disk using the Wordstar 4 program. Opinion pieces and letters to the editor should not be more than 500 words and should be submitted on disk whenever possible. The editor reserves the right to select, edit, and position all copy.

Stories may be reprinted with acknowledgment of source.

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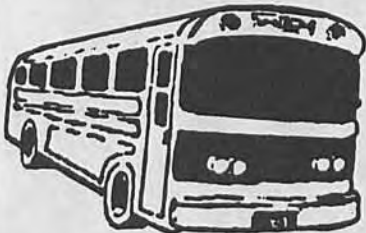


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Warde

Each operator of the month was presented with a plaque by Assistant General Manager Leahy and General Manager Pegg.

President Swanson congratulated the drivers and expressed the hope that, perhaps, next year would bring a female candidate.

Ms. Bailey and President Swanson finally ended the suspense by announcing the 1989 winner. Warde was selected from a field of 12 operators, each named operator of the month during 1989. Warde was presented with a trophy, a framed certificate, a check for \$1,000, and (contributed by the Marketing Department) a round trip for two, airfare and hotel included, to Acapulco. Division 16 Manager Evelyn Frizielle presented Warde with his Operator of the Year patches.

All finalists were given gift certificates to employee activities events and

continued on page 4 . . .



Division 16 Operator Charles Warde was presented a handsome trophy and certificate of excellence by RTD Board President Gordana Swanson after being selected 1989 Operator of the Year.

Charles Warde, behind the wheel of an RTD bus for 17 years, was selected as the RTD's Operator of the Year for 1989, it was announced May 8 at a luncheon held at the New Otani Hotel in Little Tokyo.

Each finalist was driven by bus from Headquarters along with invited guests from each department. The honorees were distinguished from guests by the carnation boutonnieres given them by the Transportation Department. All the honorees and finalists were driven to the luncheon by Division 1 Operators Virginia Adams and Amadeo Montoya.

Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey acted as mistress of ceremonies by welcoming the guests and introducing them to each operator of the month for

the previous year as well as to Rodeo winners. Ms. Bailey invited the attending RTD Board members, President Gordana Swanson, Vice-President Marvin Holen, and Director Charles Storing, along with department directors and executive staff, to meet the best in her department.

Assistant General Manager for Operations Art Leahy noted that among the group of operators selected for 1989, collectively they had only 4 missouts and 8 chargeable accidents. Based on these figures and other indicators the operators were the top one-third of one percent of the RTD driver population.

General Manager Alan Pegg remarked, "It's a pleasure to be in a roomful of winners. You are our

role models. We are aware of the tough, urban environment you have to work in and the good customer relations you work hard at making. Thank you for all your hard work, it makes my job easier."



Following the announcement, Charles Warde was congratulated by his division manager, Evelyn Frizielle.

Selected 1989 Operator of the Year

plaques. Ms. Bailey concluded by recognizing the wives of all the operators and thanking them for the support they give their husbands from which the District benefits.

This year's luncheon, an enormous success, was coordinated by Transportation Department Administrative Analyst Emile Martin.

The honored guest, Charles Warde, a 62-year old grandfather, in 11 years has never been absent from the job, and in 13 years, he has never been late for work. He also received numerous letters of commendations from passengers and his manager.

Among his colleagues, Warde is known as the man who cares for all his passengers, especially the disabled. One wheelchair-bound patron remembers Warde fondly as "the man who displayed so much sensitivity and concern" when he had trouble making connections in Riverside.

A bowling and fishing



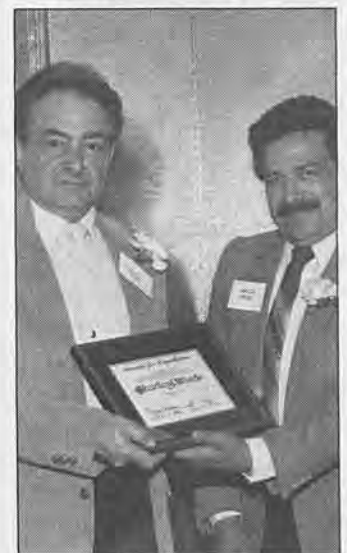
At the conclusion of the luncheon, the RTD's elite force was presented to the audience. Front row, from left to right: RTD Board Vice-President Marvin Holen, Division 1 Operator Manuel Guzman, Division 7 Operator Orlando Medrano, RTD Board President Gordana Swanson, Division 16 Operator of the Year Charles Warde, General Manager Alan Pegg, Division 10 Operator David M. Caudillo, Division 12 Operator Emiliano Chavez, Division 16 Operator Jimmy Rayford, and RTD Board Director Charles Storing. Back row, from left to right: Division 7 Operator Charles Bledsoe, Division 8 Operator Marcial Nieto, Division 12 Operator Albert Johnson, Division 6 Operator Raymond C. Sellers, and Division 5 Operator Hilton Hackley.

buff, Warde generally works the extra board. Married for 32 years, he

and his wife, Sheila, are the parents of four grown children.



Operator of the Year Charles Warde received more accolades from his general manager and director of transportation. From left to right: RTD Board President Gordana Swanson, Charles Warde, General Manager Alan Pegg, and Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey.



Charles Warde was given a certificate by the 1988 Operator of the Year, Rogelio Chacon.

1784 Brings New Direction and Structure in LA County Transportation

Governor Deukmejian signed AB 1784 (sponsored by Assemblyman Richard Katz) into law on May 16, 1990. The bill took effect immediately. The new law is intended to provide the direction and structure for transportation in Los Angeles County for the new century. The law's provisions are as follows:

- Permits some board members to sit on both the SCRTD and the LACTC Board of Directors.
- Requires joint meetings of both boards at least once each quarter and that the Mayor of Los Angeles and the five members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors attend in person.
- Requires that major policy and fiscal items related to the LACTC and the SCRTD be discussed at these meetings.
- Requires the SCRTD and the LACTC to develop a plan for reorganization of the two agencies into a unified, comprehensive structure which insures maximum accountability to the people.
- Provides a deadline for reorganization by directing that the reorganization plan be ready by January 1, 1992.

"The RTD has been a model for other transit agencies in the nation due to the efforts of its employees. The new organization will need them to make it work. While we hammer

out the details of reorganization, employees can be sure of this: their jobs, their benefits, and our labor contracts will remain safe and untouched," said General Manager Alan Pegg. The general manager will issue reports periodically to inform employees of progress achieved on the reorganization plan. Employees with questions are invited to call Government Relations at extension 4346.

First Changes To Integrate Bus and Rail Made in June

Changes to bus service designed to make it easier for bus passengers to use the new Blue Line light rail service which opened this month took effect June 24.

The first route and schedule changes affected mostly cross-town, or east-west, bus service, requiring minor route and schedule changes where bus routes meet the Blue Line.

Twenty-four bus lines were affected, with a total of 52 lines ultimately to be modified when all changes are in place by July, 1991.

"We decided to wait until September to implement the major changes to allow light rail riders ample time to get accustomed to the rail service and its schedule," said General Manager Alan Pegg.

All changes are scheduled to be in place in June, 1991, when all 22 Blue Line stations are slated to be in operation between Los Angeles and Long Beach.

continued on page 7 . . .

Former A G M Rhine Passes Away

William J. Rhine, former RTD Assistant General Manager for Transit Systems Development, passed away May 26, 1990 of lung cancer. He was 62.

He brought more than 10 years of rail transit construction experience to RTD's Metro Rail subway project in 1981 and directed the project through the bulk of its construction phase.

Prior to his appointment as acting AGM in August of 1987, Rhine was director of Systems Design and Analysis for the rail project.

Before joining RTD, he was director of safety and product qualification for the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), where he was responsible for safety qualifications for all UMTA-

funded rail, bus, and automated systems.

The Los Angeles native also served as director of engineering for the Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) in Oakland and ground systems manager for the Depart-

ment of Transportation Systems Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He also spent 16 years in aerospace engineering.

Rhine is survived by his wife Rosella, three sons, two daughters, a stepson, and a brother and sister.



AGM William Rhine and his wife Rosella accepted a city's appreciation for a job well done from Mayor Tom Bradley in November 1989.

Integration of Bus and Rail Schedules

...continued from page 6

The following RTD bus lines underwent minor route or schedule changes on June 24:

Line 51 (Avalon Boulevard) was extended north of Compton Boulevard via Willowbrook Avenue to provide direct service to Compton Station and the nearby Compton Transit Center near Palmer Street.

Line 70 (Garvey Avenue) was re-routed to provide service to Pico Station. Service from El Monte now operates regular westbound route to 11th and Hope streets, then south on Hope to Pico Boulevard and Pico Station, Figueroa Street, returning by regular route via Pico, Figueroa, and 12th Street through to the Central Business District.

Line 78 (L.A.-South Arcadia via Las Tunas Drive)

Line 79 (L.A.-Arcadia via Huntington Drive)

Line 378 (L.A.-South Arcadia via Las Tunas Drive Limited)

Line 379 (L.A.-Arcadia via Huntington Dr. Limited)--

Service operates regular westbound routes from San Gabriel Valley to Grand Avenue and 18th Street, then south via Grand to Grand Station, 21st Street, and Olive Street to regular route. Note: Grand Station was not scheduled for opening this month with the first part of the Blue Line System, but will open later this year. The bus route changes, however went into

Metro Blue Line



effect in June.

Line 110 (Gage Avenue) operates regular route from Culver City to Compton Boulevard and Gage Avenue, then southward via Compton to Florence Avenue to serve Florence Station, northward via Holmes Avenue, resuming regular eastbound route to Bell Gardens via Gage.

Line 119 (108th Street) operates regular route from Manhattan Beach to 108th Street and Central Avenue, then north on Central to 103rd Street to serve the 103rd Street Station, south via Wilmington Avenue, returning to regular route to Lynwood via Santa Ana Boulevard.

Line 124 (El Segundo Boulevard) now extended northward to Compton Transit Center and Compton Station. Service operates eastward via regular route from El Segundo to Compton Boulevard and Willowbrook Avenue, then via Willowbrook to Compton Station and Transit Center. In addition, this line has been extended to serve Imperial Station. Service to Imperial Station operates regular eastbound route from El Segundo to 120th Street and Wilmington Avenue, then via Wilmington, Imperial Highway, and Willowbrook to Imperial Station. Service eastbound from the station resumes via Willowbrook, 119th Street, and regular route to Compton.

continued on page 13...

C COMMENDATIONS

Electronic Communications Technician Marguerita Perez was chosen the Facilities Maintenance Employee of the Month for April. Her supervisor acknowledges her as a welcome addition to the South Park crew. Her previous experience with farebox field service repair methods is a valuable resource which has added to the stature of the group's reputation. During the noteworthy month, Ms. Perez performed difficult repairs on a second-call basis. These repairs involved both receiver vault problems and selective farebox failures. In one case, she used a problem-clearing technique which successfully cleared a severely jammed cashbox. This particular technique had never been incorporated in the course of the depot's activities and had been overlooked until she brought it into practice. Her ingenuity resulted in a significant improvement in the District's farebox maintenance ability.



Division 5's Doris E. Harris was selected Operator of the Month for April. Ms. Harris has been with the District since 1980. She has had only one avoidable accident in nearly ten years of service. Also, Operator Harris has never had a missout and has not been absent due to illness in nearly six years. She has accumulated the highest number of merits attainable--90, and has received numerous letters of commendation from the public and her division managers.

She is currently working line 110, Huntington Park-Fox Hills. Her favorite is the 220 line because she likes the change of scenery. She says her most memorable experience was on the day after Halloween, back in 1981, when a passenger boarded in a complete gorilla suit and tried to scare her by beating on his chest. Ms. Harris replied by asking for the fare which caused the gorilla-person to break out in laughter.

Originally, from Springfield, New Jersey, Ms. Harris spends much of her spare time running errands for her elderly neighbors and taking them shopping and to medical appointments. She also enjoys cooking, sewing, and playing with her grandson. Ms. Harris says she is very happy about her career with the RTD and enjoys meeting and serving all of the different people of Los Angeles. Her attitude toward her passengers, fellow employees, her love for people, and her defensive driving skills make her a true professional.



Senior Planner Russ Wilson was selected Employee for the Winter Quarter of 1990 by the Scheduling and Operations Planning Department. Russ has been involved in special event planning dating from the 1984 Olympic Games. It seems that Los Angeles is always having special events, visits from the Pope, parades, festivals, or marathons. Russ has been a key figure in the coordination of our bus service either to serve or detour around street closures caused by the events. Nights and weekends often see Russ out in the field to ensure a smooth operation. Whether at the UCLA games, at the Rosebowl, an environmental fair, the Los Angeles Marathon, the Fiesta on Broadway, or the Nelson Mandela visit, Russ has spent countless hours of his own time to the benefit of the District and our patrons. Russ accepted his plaque and a check from Assistant General Manager for Operations Art Leahy (left), and Director of Scheduling and Operations Planning Steve Parry (right).

Benefits Technician Andre Hanna was selected the Personnel Department Employee of the Quarter for Winter 1990. Andre had perfect attendance during the quarter, not to mention perfect attendance for the entire calendar year of 1989. The first calendar quarter of each year is the most popular time to retire; this creates a very dramatic increase in the work load. In a normal year, the customized individual counseling sessions which thoroughly explain all retirement options with the potential retiree, are divided up between several different individuals that work in the Benefits Section. 1990 was not a normal year due to many special projects in the Benefits Section, which prevented all but the most occasional support for Andre. Almost singlehanded, Andre conducted over 80



retirement counseling sessions in this quarter, as well as processed all retirement applications in a timely manner. In addition, Andre processed about 300 retirement estimates as well as completing his usual duties in an exemplary manner. Andre is the classic

professional; he performs his duties without complaint and always keeps the interests of the employees he is serving in mind. He continues to bring joy to the Personnel Department when on special occasions he bakes one of his masterpieces for all to sample.

continued on page 10 . . .

...Commendations

continued from page 9

Ambrose Hale was chosen Telephone Information Operator of the Month for April. Ambrose has been with the District since October of 1985. He has established himself as a courteous and conscientious employee; a definite asset to the District as well as the Information Department. He was also chosen Operator of the Month for June 1986 and October 1987, Operator of the Year in 1986 and runner-up for Operator of the Year in 1988. He is quite proficient in his job duties, receiving numerous commendations.



Supervising Accounts Receivable Clerk Rosa Garcia was named Employee of the Quarter by the Accounting & Fiscal Department. Rosa was hired on March 3, 1980. She has consistently performed in an outstanding manner, evidenced by several formal commendations on file. She was unanimously selected by her supervisors and peers as Employee of the Quarter for the exceptional contributions during the quarter. Her unit, the Accounts Receivable Section, was specially burdened during the period (lack of staffing resources, training needs, heavy clerical support requirements from the Accountants Section, etc.) and she handled all these demands in a truly outstanding manner. On top of this, during the extended absences of the Accounting Manager's secretary, she helped out in a manner that the Manager could not have done without.



Property Maintainer Richard Harris was awarded the Stops and Zones Department Maintenance Employee of the 1990 Winter Quarter. During that period Mr. Harris performed at a level that did not go unnoticed as he was formally commended on two separate occasions. The first commendation he received was for his work on the light rail signage project. The second was a commendation from the PDCD resident engineer for the job he did on the Union Station Metro Rail signage project. Mr. Harris (left) was presented with a check and a plaque by his supervisor, Tom Kelso.

Vor Tay was selected the General Services Employee of the Month for April, 1990. Vor Tay has been with the District since 1983 and has been a consistent and dependable employee. Mr. Tay is responsible for the 1016 Ticket Office, Division 4, and has additional responsibilities in the Headquarters Building. His performance and attendance has exceeded all expectations and for this his supervisors commend him. He was presented with a certificate of appreciation and a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond.



continued on page 12 . . .

... Commendations

continued from page 11

Harold Shepherd was selected by the General Services Department as Employee of the Month for May, 1990. Harold has been a Mopper-Waxer with the department since 1986. He is a well-liked employee among his co-workers and supervisors. He has a great disposition and a positive attitude toward his work. This is also supported by excellent attendance and performance records. He was presented with a certificate and a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond by Supervisor Joe Coleman (left) and by Manager Brian Soto (right).



Bindery Operator Manny Alvarez was chosen the Print Shop's Employee of the Quarter for Winter 1990. Alvarez was presented a plaque of merit and a check from Supervisor Carl McKnight (left) and Printing Manager Al Moore (right).

... Integration of Bus and Rail Schedules

continued from page 7

Line 125 (Rosecrans Avenue) now extends southward from Rosecrans and Willowbrook avenues via Willowbrook to Palmer Street serving Compton Station and Compton Transit Center. Regular route between El Segundo and La Mirada has not been changed.

Line 127 (Compton Boulevard-Bellflower Boulevard) eastbound from Carson operates regular route to Acacia Avenue and Myrrh Street, then via Myrrh, Alameda Street, Compton Boulevard, and Willowbrook Avenue to serve Compton Station and Compton Transit Center. From the station, service resumes eastbound via Willowbrook to Compton and regular route to Downey.

Line 128 (Compton-Alondra) is extended northward from Compton Boulevard and Willowbrook Avenue to serve Compton Station and Compton Transit Center via Willowbrook (East Roadway) to Palmer Street. Regular route between Compton and La Mirada has not been affected.

Line 130 Artesia Boulevard) from Redondo Beach operates regular eastbound route to Walnut and Acacia streets, then east on Walnut to Artesia Station roadway to serve Artesia Station. Service to Fullerton resumes via Walnut to Acacia Street and regular route to east terminus.

Line 254 (120th Street-Gage Avenue-Lorena Street) was rerouted to



serve Firestone and Imperial Stations. From USC Medical Center, service operates regular route to Fir Avenue and Firestone Boulevard, then west on Firestone to Maie Avenue to serve Firestone Station, then via Maie to 92nd Street, resuming regular southbound route via Anzac Avenue to 119th Street and Wilmington Avenue. At 119th Street and Wilmington, service operates north on Wilmington, Imperial Highway, south on Willowbrook to Imperial Station, resuming regular route to El Segundo via 119th and 120th streets.

Line 427 (L.A.-Warner Center-Canoga Park) From Canoga Park, operates eastbound via regular route to 6th and Flower streets, then south Flower to Pico Boulevard and Pico Station, Figueroa Street, 11th Street, and Sentous Street. Service westbound operates via Sentous, Pico, and regular route to Canoga Park via Figueroa.

Line 434 (L.A.-Malibu), **Line 436** (L.A.-Venice Boulevard), and **Line 439** (L.A.-Redondo Beach) operate regular route eastbound from west

Los Angeles area to Olive Street and Pico Boulevard, then via Pico to Figueroa Street to serve Pico Station. Service resumes eastbound from the station via Figueroa to 8th Street and then follow regular routes to their terminus. Westbound trips follow regular route from the Central Business District to Sixth and Hope streets, then via Hope, 11th, Flower, and 12th streets, returning to regular route via Grand Avenue to West L.A.

The following lines that previously picked up or discharged passengers at selected stops in the downtown area will now perform both functions at all stops in the Los Angeles Central Business

District to facilitate rider access to and from Pico Station:

Line 427 (L.A.-Warner Center-Canoga Park)

Line 442 (L.A.-Hawthorne Express)

Line 443 (L.A.-North Torrance-Redondo Beach-Palos Verdes)

Line 444 (L.A.-Torrance-Rolling Hills-Rancho Palos Verdes)

Line 445 (L.A.-Alpine Village-San Pedro)

Line 446 (L.A.-Carson-Wilmington-San Pedro)

Line 447 (L.A.-San Pedro-Seventh Street)

Other changes affecting District services that link with light rail service are due out September 9.



Breazeal, Daniel, began with the District on April 21, 1980, retired as a Plumber on April 30, 1990.

Blunt, Anthony, began with the District on June 22, 1981, retired as a Service Attendant on May 10, 1990.

Gebauer, Richard G., began with the District on November 28, 1970, retired as a Bus Operator on April 30, 1990.

Gentry, Floyd, began with the District on February 6, 1965, retired as a

Bus Operator on May 10, 1990.

Hines, William R., began with the District on May 6, 1967, retired as a Bus Operator on May 17, 1990.

Holland, Robert A., began with the District on February 7, 1959, retired as Director of Scheduling & Operations Planning on March 28, 1990.

Hyatt, Charles, began with the District on March 15, 1976, retired as a Bus Operator on May 2, 1990. continued on page 15 ...

SCHEDULE CHANGES



Aguirre, Ricardo, from Word Processor Operator to Research Assistant.

Aemmer, Jeffrey D., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Ahumada, Gilberto P., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Alarcon, Roman, from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Aviles, James P., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Barnes, Charles R., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Beckwith, Veronica D., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Benitez, Michael A., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Britt, Jennings E., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Burks, Brenda T., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Camagay, Alfredo M., from Storekeeper to Stock Clerk.

Cardiel, Edward F., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Carlisle, Eric T., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Carr, Elwood T., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Celestain, Sheila D., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Clay, Steve, from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Cotton, Willie D., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Crabtree, Arthur L., from Rail Traction Power Inspector to Rail Traction Power Supervisor.

Davis-Nesby, Lois Cheng, from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Dear, Marsha, from Typist Clerk to General Clerk.

Delgadillo, Robert, from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

Delgado, Letticia, from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

Douglass, Steven B., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Edwards, Ricky L., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Esfandiary, Farhang, from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Felix, Gary, from Electronic Communication Technician to System Electronic Communication Technician.

Fernando, Ramon R., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Gaerlan, Maria, from Word Processor Operator to Prepaid Sales Aide.

Galvan, Jorge A., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Giannetti, Gianni, from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

tor.

Goldblatt, Elias, from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Guidinger, Phil W., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Hale, John J., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Haynes, Marion S., from Stock Clerk to Storekeeper.

Hernandez, Fernando G., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Huizar, Yolanda G., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Irvin, Kenneth L., from Payroll Specialist to Supervising Cashier.

Jackson, Douglas, from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Jefferson, Anthony L., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Kane, Ronald S., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Kawahara, Dean E., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Keith, Sheila A., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Lewis, Darryle, from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

Little, Curley J., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Liwag, Mario R., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Lonquich, Paul D., from Human Resources Assistant to Human Resources Analyst.

Luu, Wayne, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Magana, Albino V., from Part-Time Bus Operator to

Full-Time Bus Operator.
Martinez, Marcos, from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.
McNeese, Rudolph, from Roving Janitor to Power Yard Sweeper.

Mejia, Nehemias, from Property Maintainer B to Property Maintainer A.

Menashe, Jack, from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

Mitchell, Sidney I., from Stock Clerk to Storekeeper.

Nelson, Jean, from Human Resources Assistant to Human Resources Analyst.

Ngo, En T., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Nguyen, David, from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Olson-Bonk, Barbara L., from Senior Administrative Analyst to Human Resources Analyst.

Perez, Yolanda, from General Clerk to General Clerk I.

Peterson, Eric R., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Ramirez, Albert, from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Rank, Stephen A., from Special Assistant to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Rauchfuss, Joseph, from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

Rivera, Santos, from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Robinson, Donna L., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Saenz, Patricia L., from Stock Clerk to Storekeeper.

continued on page 15 . . .

Sanchez, Edward E., from Human Resources Assistant to Human Resources Analyst.

Sao, Benjamin, from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Simbulan, Crisanto P., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Simpson, Mark, from Mopper Waxer to Stock Clerk.

Smith, Philip, from Senior Transit Operations Supervisor to Assistant Division Transportation Manager.

Smithee, Duncan M., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Soto, Jose A., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Swann, Thomas F., from Administrative Analyst to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Swinton, David, from Train Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Thomson, William, from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

Thomson-Jenkins, Belinda, from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

Trejo, William, from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

Walton, Michael H., from Bus Operator to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Wells, Donald L., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Williams, Andrienne M., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

Williams, Cherri Y., from Office Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Williams, Patricia A., from Part-Time Bus Operator to Full-Time Bus Operator.

IN MEMORIAM

Alvarado, Romaldo, began with the District as a Mechanic A on January 1, 1985, passed away on May 1, 1990.

Anderson, Albert D., began with the District on September 27, 1946 as a Utility A, passed away on May 4, 1990.

Caven, Robert J., began with the District on August 11, 1962 as a Bus Operator, passed away on May 4, 1990.

Cortez, Jesse Pedro, began with the District on June 26, 1963 as a Bus Operator, passed away on May 16, 1990.

Gibson, Harold J., began with the District on January 4, 1924 as a Motorman then became a Bus Operator, passed away on October 21, 1989.

Glaser, Diane E., began with the District on February 5, 1979 as a Ticket Clerk, passed away on March 21, 1990.

Johnson Roland, began with the District on October 1, 1946 as a Chief Clerk, passed away on May 15, 1990.

Lampe, William O., began with the District on February 20, 1976 as a Security Guard I, passed away on April 11, 1990.

Willis, James, from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

McGinnis, Martin H., began with the District on March 6, 1964 as a Equipment Foreman, passed away on March 21, 1990.

McIlwain, Elsie M., began with the District on May 14, 1931 as Chief Clerk, passed away on April 30, 1990.

Ray, Carelton, began with the District on October 26, 1959 as a Bus Operator, passed away on April 9, 1990.

Rhine, Bill, began with the District on February 23, 1981 as an Assistant General Manager - Transit Systems Development, passed away on May 26, 1990.

Roberts, Raymond A., began with the District on April 22, 1936 as an Accounting Supervisor, passed away on April 19, 1990.

Rummage, Aaron H., began with the District on February 15, 1964 as a Property Maintainer A Leader, passed away on April 27, 1990.

Smith, Emerson T., began with the District on April 2, 1959 as a Bus Operator, passed away on April 5, 1990.

Spillers, Daniel L., began

Winston, Michael W., from Truck Driver/Clerk to Stock Clerk.

with the District on July 10, 1946 as a Utility, passed away on April 3, 1990.

Worsham, Elbert L., began with the District on May 29, 1926 as a Motorman then became an Operator, passed away on May 22, 1990.

Shifting Gears

... continued from page 13

Moore, Felton, began with the District on November 10, 1962, retired as a Bus Operator on April 30, 1990.

Mulder, Bernard, began with the District on March 24, 1976, retired as a Mechanic A on March 1, 1990.

Parker, David, began with the District on February 11, 1972, retired as a Bus Operator on May 1, 1990.

Porter, Florine E., began with the District on October 23, 1988, retired as a Senior Secretary on April 18, 1990.

Sundling, Phillip G., began with the District on October 2, 1971, retired as a Bus Operator on April 2, 1990.

Woods, Ronald, began with the District on March 25, 1967, retired as a Bus Operator on May 4, 1990.

Transit Police Honor Employees of The Year



Investigator Nicholas Aldana was chosen the Police Officer of the Year for 1989 by the Transit Police Department.

The Transit Police Department held an Awards Luncheon to recognize its outstanding employees for the year 1989. General Manager Alan Pegg and Transit Police Chief Sharon Papa met with the employees and their families to confer honors on those designated employees at Frere Taix's restaurant in Silver Lake on May 22.

General Manager Pegg declared those in the room as "RTD's Finest," and expected them to rise to the challenges confronting the District as it enters a new era of rail transportation. He turned to Chief Papa and acknowledged the fact that one of his best decisions was appointing her to her present position.

Chosen as Police Officer of the Year for 1989, Investigator Nicholas

Aldana joined the department in 1981. He was promoted to Investigator in 1983. During the past year he has made a continuing and important contribution to the department both as a fraud investigator and as rangemaster. "In selecting Nick as Officer of the Year, we are recognizing his hard work and professionalism involved in the transition to the 9mm handgun--he personally inspected each gun and conducted orientation/qualification training for all sworn personnel, including shotgun training," said Chief Papa. Many people, both within and outside the department have commended the quality of the Transit Police's 9mm Training Program and Investigator Aldana's knowledge and professionalism. Aldana also

won the department's high marks for conducting drug awareness training for supervisors throughout the District.

formance the department would not have succeeded in recruiting more than 50 new officers in the past year," said Chief Papa.



Investigator Robert Delgadillo was named Officer for the Second Half of 1989 by the Transit Police.

Investigator Robert Delgadillo was selected as the Police Officer for the Second Half of 1989. Beginning his service with the department as a Security Guard in 1986, by October 1987 he graduated from the Police Academy and joined the sworn ranks.

"Robert's story illustrates how good sometimes comes out of adversity," said Chief Papa. "Robert was injured in an on-duty accident and then assigned to light duty doing background investigations and his performance has been superb." He proved so effective in tracking applicants through the recruiting process that he was assigned full time to the Bureau and now schedules applicants for all the testing, interviews, and processing steps. "Without his dedication and outstanding per-

formance the department would not have succeeded in recruiting more than 50 new officers in the past year," said Chief Papa.

Richard Witte was named Security Guard of the Year for 1989. With the department as a Security Guard since 1983, Witte just recently switched hats and was promoted to Staff Aide. "Throughout his employment, Richard has been diligent in performing all his duties," said Chief Papa. He often noted problem areas and recommended methods to improve the security operation of the department. "His willingness to assist all department activities did not go unnoticed during the past year--and it was certainly appreciated," she said.

John Davis was chosen Security Guard of the Last Half of 1989. A member of

continued on page 17...

Transit Police Awards

... continued from page 16



Security Guard Richard Witte was chosen Security Guard of the Year for 1989.

the department since 1983, Davis is a familiar and friendly face to many throughout the District. "He is always conscientious in performing his assigned duties," said Chief Papa. "He is well-deserving of this special recognition." In

Department in 1987. The previous year was one distinguished by rapid changes. "Sara has been deeply involved in supporting all the major activities of the year. Beginning with providing logistic and clerical



Security Guard John Davis was Security Guard for the Last Half of 1989.

addition to his regular duties, Davis represents his fellow security officers in the Teamsters union.

Senior Secretary Sara E. Romero was singled out as the Civilian Employee of the Year for 1989. Ms. Romero has been a District employee for 20 years, joining the Transit Police

support for the peer review panel, she handled virtually all the arrangements and prepared transcripts of the proceedings," said Chief Papa. "She has also prepared transcripts from tapes of dozens of investigations and throughout this period her good humor and

professionalism have been invaluable to the department," she concluded.

Staff Aide Jo Ann Serrano was recognized as Civilian Employee of the Last Half of 1989. Ms.

ees added to the department in the second half of 1989, her workload increased and she had to devote many additional hours to processing new employee paperwork and



Senior Secretary Sara E. Romero was selected the Civilian Employee of the Year for 1989.

Serrano began working for the District in 1983 and transferred to the department in 1984, initially as a secretary.

"As Personnel/Payroll Staff Aide, Jo Ann is a key member of the support staff and you can be sure if someone's pay isn't right she'll hear about it and quickly and cheerfully correct it," said Chief Papa. With over 30 new employ-

tracking of all the personnel activity. She did, and continues to do, a great job and clearly deserves this special recognition," said Chief Papa.

General Manager Pegg personally thanked each employee for his or her contributions and presented plaques and certificates along with Chief Papa.



Staff Aide Jo Ann Serrano was chosen the Civilian Employee of the Last Half of 1989.

C PUBLIC COMMENDATIONS

Thanks for a Job Well Done!

Division 3201

Johnson, Willie
Sifuentes, Reymundo*
Thomas, Brenda

Division 3203

Best, Sharon
Carroll, Quincy
Essex, Charles
Hicks, Preston*

Hunter, Kecia
Miranda, Daniel

Division 3205

Aparicio, Richard
Holmes, Ruby
Howard, Adriene
Hurston, Donald
Jefferson, James

Johnson, Mary
Lopez, Mark
Martinez, Samuel
McCrary, Cynthia
Ridgway, Beverly
Samuel, Xavier

Division 3206

Davis, Evelyn
Homan, John
Rattleff, Sharon

Division 3207

Harrell, Tonita
Lawton, Calvin
Mitchell, Dana
Resendez, David
Schneider, Thomas*

Valencia, Alvaro

Division 3208

Ahumada, Guilberto
Bryant, Kimberly
Williams, Benny

Division 3209

Bedford, Bennie
Huante, Felipe
Jennings, Lloyd*
Romero, Lionel

Senteno, Edward

Division 3210

Blue, Theartis
Bueno, Walter
Cuellar, Monica
Kuehnl, Steven
Lee, Scott

Ross, Alphonso
Shorters, Jimmie*

Division 3212

Hoffman, Elton
Knight, Nina
Monaghan, Patrick

Division 3215

Brown, Wanda
Crutchfield, David
Forrest, Elliott
Hernandez, Reuben

Le Gras, Mark
Reeder, Andrew
Rousseve, Errol J.

Division 3216

Aleshire, Dale
Boles, John
Koenekamp, Herman
Loper, Tom

Division 3218

Brown, Sam
Johnson, Hiram
Taylor, Darnell

* Operator received more than one commendation.

Dear RTD:

I am a 1st time visitor to Los Angeles, and will be here only 6 days. On 2 days, I tried Lines 117, 251, 30, and 40 to Los Angeles downtown and observed those drivers to be polite and helpful to passengers, and to me even when I transferred wrongly or did not know the correct stop.

Also, on Sunday, April 15, I observed one of your bus drivers to be courteous and helpful not only to me but also to every passenger, young and old. This was on Line 117 from Lynwood to West Century Blvd. The driver was Orlando Medrano.

I am writing to say that I appreciate very much the courtesy shown by the RTD drivers on the lines that I tried. Please also give my best regards to Mr. Medrano for his helpfulness.

Thank you very much.

Wan Pong Seng
875 Bukit Timah Road
Republic of Singapore 1027

Thanks for Your Support

We would like to thank our RTD friends and coworkers for their expressions of sympathy, support, and compassion toward us following the passing of our beloved son, Marc Boctor, 19, on May 4, 1990. A memorial scholarship fund has been established in his name by the Hacienda La Puente Council Parent-Teacher Association. If you desire to support this fund kindly contact the council treasurer, Mrs. Susan Koba at 1612 Bork Avenue, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745. Mrs. Koba could also be reached by calling (818) 961-5365. Al and Carmen Boctor

Dinner at 8 for Division 10



Division 10 Operators will strut their stuff at a black tie affair held July 21 at the Hilton Hotel in Baldwin Park. All are welcome to participate in this dinner, show, and dance which

promises "a good menu, a good time, and you..." Sponsored by Anayas Salvadorean Restaurant at 11th and Vermont St., Los Angeles; Campbell's Fish Market and Diner at 745 E. Altadena Dr., Altadena; and Tiffany Cleaning Services at 1488 Fernando Ave., Upland; some proceeds from the evening will go to the Inner City Foundation for Excellence in Education. Tickets are on sale now for \$35. Dinner will be promptly served at 7:30 p.m. Entrees includes a combination steak dinner with chicken or shrimp.

The hotel is located right off Interstate 10 at Puente. For information on purchasing tickets call Earl Rollins at Division 10, extension 6210.

Meet Your Benefits Section Staff

Inside the RTD Headquarters Building on the second floor located in the Personnel Department is a section comprised of individuals dedicated to seeing that you get your fair share of benefits and that you understand clearly what you've got coming to you. Often we don't think about our valuable benefits until some critical period in our lives and find ourselves scurrying around for the right person. We will try to make that quest easier by introducing you to the folks that handle the specific benefit desks. After a proper introduction, you can feel at ease about calling a staff member with a question you've been meaning to get an answer to for quite some time. By matching the names with the faces you'll know who to talk to for whatever need (or who to complain to if something goes wrong).



Kathi Harper, Senior Human Resources Analyst
Kathi takes care of special projects on health, life, and dental insurance, and beneficiary inquiries.
Extension 7185

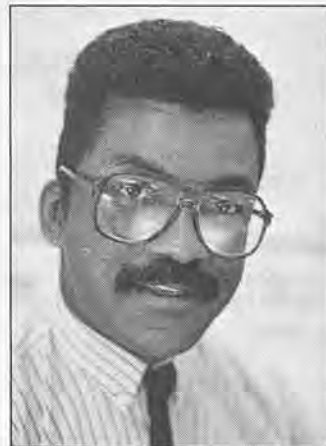
Ed Paull, Pension And Benefits Manager



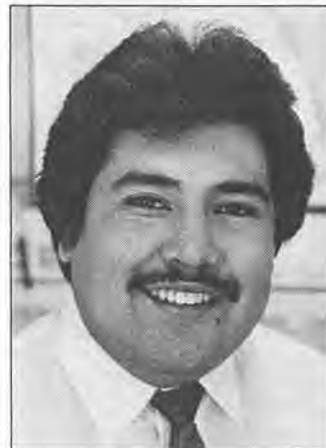
Ed handles many questions on retirement benefits including Pension Reciprocity, and meets with employees and their spouses for retirement counseling. He also answers questions on vacation, holidays, and sick time. Extension 7180



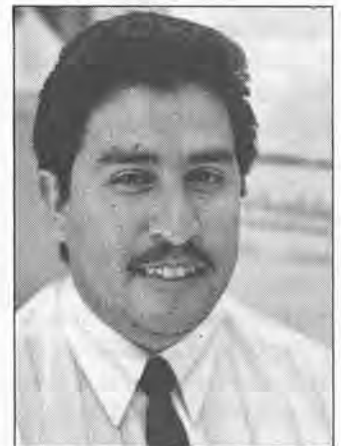
Gwen Keene, Office Supervisor
Notary public, general information specialist regarding District policies including vacation, holiday and sick pay, and most importantly, computing payroll information.
Extension 7184



Andre Hanna, Benefits Technician
In addition to answering lots of questions on retirement benefits, Andre prepares retirement benefit estimates, pension refunds, and retiree change of address processing.
Extension 7174



Ruben Juarez, Benefits Clerk
Ruben takes care of death reports regarding active or retired employees, and assists in beneficiary changes, and queries about additional life insurance including premium collections for retiree life insurance. Extension 7187



Rudy Chairez, Benefits Clerk
Rudy handles pension inquiries, including missing pension checks, retiree change of address processing; assists relatives of deceased retirees, and processes beneficiary changes.
Extension 7173



Ann Craver, Benefits Technician
Ann takes care of all Non-Contract insurance needs, new enrollment and changes in coverage of life, health, and dental insurance and flexible spending accounts.
Extension 7186

A Tribute to Excellence

Hispanics in Transit (HIT) marked the celebrated Battle of Puebla fought on the 5th of May with a dinner-dance titled "A Tribute to Excellence" at the Board of Realtors Auditorium in San Gabriel. The fiesta, although based on a Mexican national holiday commemorating the famous battle of May 5, 1862, is truly a cross-cultural observance that welcomes people of all ethnic backgrounds to celebrate the struggle for freedom.

HIT was formed last fall to promote the professional development of RTD Hispanic employees and the transportation interests of the Hispanic community at large. Its goals include the establishment of a scholarship fund for Hispanic youth and sponsorship of a school in a predominately Hispanic area.

TOS Jose Romo, elegantly attired in a classic tuxedo, acted as master of ceremonies for the evening. He was backed up by that musical wizard and d.j., TOS Jesse Castorena. During the dinner, a traditional fare of barba-coa, rice, beans, and salad, guests were entertained by the singers Ricardo Perez and Antoinette Gonzalez. Both singers gave highly professional performances which were quite enjoyable. TOS Ignacio Gonzalez sang oldies, but goodies; and he was pretty good too.

Following the dinner entertainment, Romo introduced special invited guests including General Manager Alan Pegg and his



Alan and Elizabeth Pegg (left) joined Ernesto and Beverly Fuentes for dinner at the HIT Cinco de Mayo celebration.

wife, Elizabeth; Controller Tom Rubin; RTD Director Larry Gonzalez; Assistant General Manager for



TOS Ignacio Gonzalez entertained guests with his rendition of "Oldies but Goodies" at the Hispanics in Transit Cinco de Mayo fundraiser.

Operations Art Leahy; Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey; Inspector General Ernesto V. Fuentes and his wife, Beverly.

General Manager Pegg bid a "Buenas Noches a todos" to commence his remarks. He noted that it was fitting that HIT gather

on Cinco de Mayo to honor nine persons who have made significant contributions of their talent, expertise, and hard work to the betterment of public transit.

The nine honorees included Assemblyman Richard Polanco from the 55th District; 1989 Operator of the Year Rogelio Chacon; 1989 Transportation Roadeo Champion Cresencio Rodriguez; Transportation Roadeo Finalist Alice M. Varela; Maintenance Roadeo Winners Javier Castro, Miguel Enriquez, Marco Pedemonte, and their coach Orville Steenbock; and Headway Editor Mary Reyna.

"Hispanics account for a high percentage of the total RTD work force. The RTD has one of the best records among government agencies in southern California in that respect. I am proud of that, and know you are, too," said Pegg.

Pegg noted that one

lesson learned from the Battle of Puebla fought 128 years ago in Mexico is that just as it was the work of each individual in soldier-to-soldier combat that made the difference in allowing the Mexican side to prevail, so too do we all need to work together for survival. "All of us have hard, tenacious work ahead in the coming years. A new era will open for the RTD and its employees as we operate the Metro Blue Line. Members of Hispanics in Transit will all play key roles in the bus-rail interface along the 22-mile light rail corridor, which goes through important passenger areas where Spanish is spoken as commonly as English," said the general manager.

"I invite all of you to continue to provide the needed dedication to make the Los Angeles and southern California of tomorrow a better place for of us," he concluded.

Inspector General Ernesto Fuentes presented each honoree with a plaque and a caricature drawn by a local artist.

Honorees

Assemblyman Richard Polanco, whose district covers the Northeastern portion of Los Angeles, received special recognition and was represented by his field representative, Keith Malone. Polanco is a native of Los Angeles and has served the Hispanic community well in his many years of public
continued on page 21 . . .

On Cinco de Mayo



A few members of the Hispanics in Transit steering committee paused for a moment of refreshment during the evening's festivities. From left to right: TOS Cristobal Medina, General Services Superintendent Anita Allen, and Administrative Analyst Maria Palomino.



Honorees Rogelio Chacon (left) and Crescencio Rodriguez admired the caricatures drawn of them that Inspector General Ernesto Fuentes presented to him.

service. He worked as a youth counselor with the Casa Maravilla Community Center and as executive director of the Maravilla Neighborhood Program. Assemblyman Polanco helped to create the East Side Association for over 500 boys to compete in a sports program which reinforced the importance of education.

The past two sessions of the State Legislature, As-

semblyman Polanco has introduced bills to improve the manner in which transit decisions are made in Los Angeles County and give smaller cities, particularly Hispanic communities, a voice in how transit tax dollars are spent. He has been a leader in the fight to bring rail transit to his district.

Operator of the Year (1989) Rogelio Chacon is a native of Mexico and

immigrated to the U.S. in 1964. He has missed only two days of work since joining the District in September 1978. He has an unblemished work record and has received numerous letters of commendation from management and the riding public. He is a line instructor and a member of the joint labor-management committee at Division 12. He and his wife, Lourdes, and their three children live in Pico Rivera. His hobbies include sports and music.

Transportation Roadeo Winner Crescencio Rodriguez (1989) won the title in competition with over 30 finalists. His win marks him as the most skilled driver among 5,000 drivers. He has been with the District for 22 years and still enjoys his work as an operator. Crescencio and his wife Julia have been married for 36 years and have 6 children. Crescencio enjoys softball, camping,

and trips to Texas.

Transportation Roadeo Finalist Alice Varela was the first female to place among the Roadeo finalists and encourages other women to enter the competition. She was born in Los Angeles and has been with the District for four years. Alice is a single parent with 2 young sons, Joey, 9, and Anthony, 3, and another on the way. She resides in Arcadia.

Maintenance Roadeo Winner Javier Castro was born in Peru and has been with the District ten years. He is currently working as a Mechanic A at the CMF. In his spare time he is a professional photographer and also enjoys water sports.

Maintenance Roadeo Winner Miguel Enriquez was born and raised in the Los Angeles area, he is a graduate of Salesian High School in East Los Angeles. He has been a mechanic *continued on page 22 . . .*



Mechanic A Javier Castro (left) expressed his thanks for the recognition he received at HIT's Cinco de Mayo celebration. Inspector General Ernesto Fuentes holds the plaque and caricature which Castro later received as a remembrance of the evening.

... Tribute to Excellence

... continued from page 21

for the past 15 years. He currently holds the position of Relief Leader at Division 10. Miguel is married and has one child. His hobbies include running and water sports.

Maintenance Roadeo Winner Marco Pedemonte

two children and is currently attending Pasadena City College. His hobbies include running and tennis.

Maintenance Roadeo Coach Orville Steenbock is a native of Kansas. He moved to Fontana with his family in 1974, at which time he



Transportation Roadeo Finalist Alice Varela was presented her plaque and caricature by Inspector General Ernesto Fuentes and Master of Ceremonies Jose Romo.



Mechanic A Miguel Enriquez was pretty pleased with his role in the 1989 Bus Maintenance Roadeo as Ernesto Fuentes reads off his list of accomplishments and Jose Romo prepares to present him with his plaque and caricature.

was born in Lima, Peru and immigrated to the United States in 1971. He started with the District in 1979 as a Service Attendant. He was promoted to Mechanic in 1984. He has

was hired by the RTD. He presently works as a Mechanic in the wheelchair section at Division 10. He is married with three children and two grandchildren. His hobbies



Mechanic A Marco Pedemonte proudly received his recognition rewards from Ernesto Fuentes.

include working on cars and camping.

Headway Editor Mary Reyna joined the District in 1983. With her background in journalism she was a natural for Headway editor. Mary is a native Texan. She has resided in California since 1975. Mary is a fourth-year law student at Whittier College of Law. She is active in Comision Femenil de Los Angeles, the Woman's Law Student Association, and the Hispanic-American Law Students Association.

Following the last of the presentations, Mr. Fuentes recognized those

members of the Hispanics in Transit steering committee who planned and coordinated the evening's event: Chairperson Anita Allen, Co-Chairperson Ralph Carapia, Treasurer Stephanie Gonzalez, Secretary Jose Molano, Nelson Bonilla, Jesse Castorena, Daniel Ibarra, Cristobal Medina, Maria Palomino, Jose Romo, Tony Sandoval, Andre Soto, John Teran, and Milo Victoria.

With the formalities discharged, Jesse Castorena, "The Entertainer," took over and let his music machine loose while the guests danced until 1 a.m.



Coach Orville Steenbock received a plaque from Ernesto Fuentes for his aid to the Division 10 team in the 1989 Bus Maintenance Roadeo. Steenbock was also presented an award of recognition from the ATU by Union Representative Tommy Elisaldez.

They Are A Match Made in Blue Line Heaven

She's 25, 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighs about 135 pounds. Her partner is much younger, quite tall at just under 12 feet and fairly chunky, tipping the scales at 18 tons.

But you may never find a more perfect match than Julie Crawford and her new "soulmate"--the big yellow shuttle wagon she has learned to operate to help maintain RTD's Blue Line system which opened this month.

The diminutive Ms. Crawford is one person assured of a fun day when she clammers aboard the shuttle wagon, a \$170,000 mountain of equipment designed to move and join together rail cars. Ms. Crawford commands the wagon as if she has operated it for a lifetime.

"I was never in awe of this giant from the very first day I laid my eyes on it," she says. "I knew that given proper instruction and training I could 'handle this,' and so far there have been no surprises."

She will have one of the most unusual jobs of any railroader pushing and pulling 50-ton rail cars around the yard located just north of Long Beach. As a rail equipment maintenance specialist, Ms. Crawford performs electrical, mechanical, and electronic maintenance work on Blue Line rail cars.

Well aware that she was the only female among the 21 trainees taking the series of courses over 24



Dwarfed by the 36,000-pound light rail shuttle wagon is Julie Crawford, 25, a rail equipment maintenance graduate of the District's Blue Line operator training course. Ms. Crawford was the only female in a start-up class of 21 persons learning to operate the \$170,000 piece of machinery. The shuttle is equipped to run both on rail and surface streets.

weeks that includes 40 hours of instruction on the shuttle wagon, Ms. Crawford says, "I enjoy being part of the team. I know I'm in a man's world, and I feel very proud of myself."

Initial suspicion from her more traditional mate, her husband David, gave way to genuine respect when he saw the "car mover" for the first time, Ms. Crawford says.

"He said to me, 'You're driving that thing? Wow! I'm really proud of you, honey.'"

Even the couple's 3-year-old son, David Jr., has joined in the family's enthusiasm, despite a few mixed signals. "He's so crazy about the shuttle wagon and the light rail cars in general," Ms. Crawford says, "that whenever he sees an RTD

bus go by now, he says, 'Momma, look at that train!'"

Julie and David Crawford both served in the Navy, where Julie was a communications electrician for four years before joining the RTD in January.

"I gained a whole lot of experience while I was in the service that I'm using here now in light rail--experience in electronics, alarm systems, and computers," she says. "Never in my wildest dreams did I think I'd be operating one of these big babies for RTD's light rail. It's a welcome challenge."

When she applied for the job, Ms. Crawford admitted she didn't know what to expect until she saw the shuttle wagon for the first time. "I told my instructors that I couldn't

wait to drive 'him' around by myself," she says. Soon she was aboard the machine, participating in several short training drills with experienced drivers. It wasn't long before she got the chance to take her new partner out for a solo spin.

"I look at the wagon and I see excitement and fun," she says, realizing the possibility of many years of engineering ahead. "I see it as a big hunk of machinery that can't even move without me. It's a tremendous responsibility, but one I gladly will accept each day."

A Jarring Experience

Operating a bus on city streets can hold many surprises--including the occasional pothole. You might think that potholes are annoying but of relatively minor concern. Sometimes that's the case. At other times the seemingly harmless pothole can become a contribution factor in accidents.

If the pothole is of sufficient size and depth, it can jar the steering wheel and make it difficult to control the bus. Personal injuries can also result from striking potholes, especially if an operator's fingers or thumbs are improperly placed on the inside portion of the steering wheel.

That's why it's so important for operators to report potholes--or any other hazards--they feel pose a danger to safe operations.

CMF's Engine Production Line . . .

By Juan Hernandez, EMS

Engine Line Production at the Central Maintenance Facility for RTD involves the complete rebuild of powerplants for Neoplan and RTS coaches. This rebuild is one of the last steps in an involved process of removal and complete disassembly of the original failed engine.

The assembly of such a complicated component as a complete powerplant is the result of many hours of



Mechanic A Leadperson Levon Futrell caps the engine with a balance weight cover at Station 2.



Mechanic A Valentin Villa fits an engine cylinder head at Station 4.



Mechanic A Gene Kenning inspects the crank shaft end play at Station 0.

intense labor. Mechanics assigned both to the Engine Production Line, and to the many support shops which remanufacture the necessary subassemblies, are highly trained individuals. The Production Line, itself, consists of nine assembly stations followed by a comprehensive testing station.

Beginning with the most basic component, a bare engine block, CMF mechanics begin a process which will reuse as many of



Mechanic A Takata Masamitsu installs an injector fuel rod at Station 5.



Mechanic A Lester Powell installs a cam shaft assembly at Station 1 at the Engine Production Line.



Mechanic A Delphin Wong affixes the engine bell housing at Station 3.

the original components as possible, resulting in a cost-effective replacement for the powerplant.

"Attention to detail" is the by-word on the Engine Production Line, a desired attribute in any manufacturing process, and absolutely necessary in the assembly of the hundreds of individual parts which must work in conjunction to ensure our coaches stay on the road.



Mechanics A Alfred Chan (left) and Glenn Johnson mount a transmission to the engine assembly at Stations 6 and 7.



Mechanic A James Evans at work installing the engine oil cooler at Station 8.



Mechanic A Roman Gonzalez "dynos" the engine and checks for leaks at Station 9

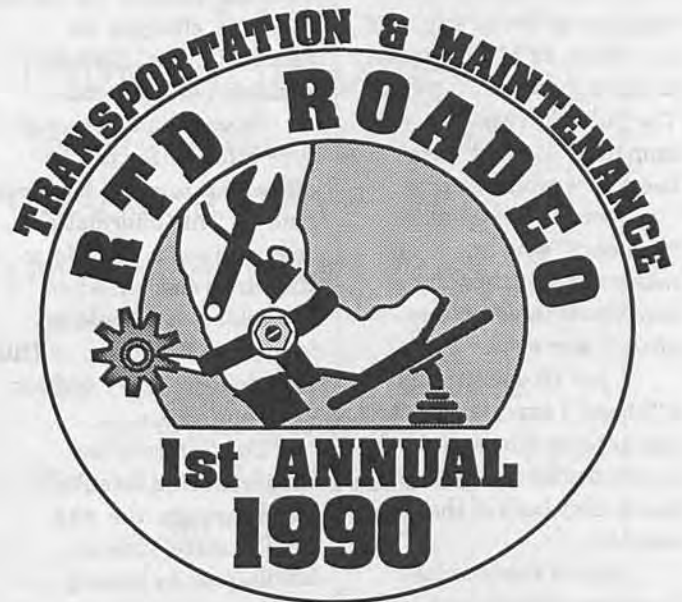
Ridesharing Can Be A Mickey Mouse Affair

RTD recently participated in a rideshare fair at Disney Studios in Burbank. RTD Marketing and Telephone Information staff met with many of Disney's employees and characters to encourage them to commute by bus.



©The Walt Disney Co.

Helping the RTD staff get the word out were, besides Mickey Mouse and Goofy, from left to right: Ed Langer and Carolyn Kinkead from the RTD's Marketing Department, Nina De Concini from Disney Studios, Division 15 Operator Jose Bolano, and Denise Diggs from RTD Telephone Information.



Prelims: July 11-14
Finals: July 21
Santa Anita Race Track

Letters to the Editor:

Dear Editor:

I noticed in the last issue of *Headway* recognition of some of the employees who participated in the Los Angeles Marathon.

I would like to submit, with pride, the results of my very good friend and co-worker, Juan Marquez, a mechanic at Div. 18. Marquez finished in 3 hours and 31 minutes. He placed 2,214 out of 14,046 total finishers, and was 364th of 1813 males in the age group of 35-39. He came in 2091st out of 11,333 males. He also took part in the Long Beach Marathon and posted a better time.

I enjoy reading the news contained in our monthly issues.

Sincerely yours,
Richard Lalla

Dear Editor:

Cheers to everyone involved in organizing the "Miracle on Broadway" and the Cinco de Mayo Parade in downtown Los Angeles. The public's response was immense. It must have been very profitable.

Jeers to these same "planners" who lured the masses in and then didn't care about their welfare after it was over.

I am an operator for RTD and I experienced the dog-eat-dog atmosphere set by the people trying to get home after both of these events.

Lack of communications was where these brilliant planners failed besides a lack of consciousness. There were literally thousands of

people spread between a few stops coming out of downtown, most of them bewildered, lost, and tired with their children in tow. They were passed up by already overcrowded buses.

Detours and re-routing added to their frustrations, signs posted in English-only didn't help most of the Spanish-speaking-only majority. Most did not know where to go to catch their bus home. Their departures lasted hours.

The intent of this letter is not to be overly critical but to learn from past mistakes and improve next year's events.

Here are a few suggestions I've listed to hopefully help the RTD passenger:

1. Open an information center 24 hours a day, 365 days a year using Silent Radio-type messages in separate languages. Hook it up with Central Communications for up-to-the-hour changes on canceled runs, detours, accidents, delays, etc.

Passes and personal type information can be offered at regular business hours. This information center can also add Metro Rail information when available. It should be located on Broadway or Hill Streets with easy walk-in, walk-out access.

The Information Center should be subsidized through the city, county, state, federal funding not by raising fares.

2. Adding more buses for those few hours where they will be greatly needed. Posting signs in

English/Spanish at key areas directing passengers to a new temporary route or line.

3. Further enforcement is needed on crime-plagued lines by having 20 undercover agents ride the buses at peak and late night hours.

By providing visual communications, updated

electronic information, and undercover law enforcement, I am sure the RTD passenger and operator will feel safer knowing there is still some sympathy left in a large transit company who claims they're devoted to the public as does the RTD.

Richard Lopez
Division 3207

Annual Downtown City Walk



Walking their way to health during the Annual Downtown City Walk were, from left to right, front row: Barbara Olson, Angie Farias, Susie Hernandez, Ann Craver, Leila Procopio, and Phil Mladinich. Back row, from left to right: Susan Pfeiffer, Miriam Pereira, Luanna Urie, and Paul Lonquich. Human Resources Analyst Forrest Miller stopped long enough to snap their picture.

A new annual event for RTD employees began on May 16, 1990, the date designated as National Employee Health and Fitness Day. About 60 RTD employees joined approximately 300 other city employees in a two-mile walk which took place during lunch hour. Participating organizations served at strategically placed tables offering water and vouchers to the energetic

walkers. Walkers collected various colored vouchers and exchanged them for blue ribbons after completing their walk. Some employees ordered t-shirts to commemorate this event. The t-shirts are decorated with the logos of the sponsoring organizations including the District's logo. Everyone enjoyed the Wellness Walk and is looking forward to next year's event.

Mini-Cholesterol Fairs Go to Divisions



The RTD brought a mini-health fair to employees at Division 15.

During May and June, the Personnel Department followed up the very popular cholesterol screening program with mini-health fairs dedicated to providing information on cholesterol.

Dr. Paul Lonquich, who handles the Medical Desk, contacted clinics to provide blood pressure tests as cholesterol can and does effect blood pressure, particularly when arteries leading into the kidneys become constricted. When possible he was on hand to join in the fun.

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) counselors were on hand to provide information on stress control as stress and cholesterol are linked. EAP counselors provided stress temperature cards and biofeedback machines to enable employees to see how they could control their own, individual stress response.

Miriam Pereira, a bus operator from Division 3215 currently assigned to the

Special Assistant Program, provided a smoking demonstration using a device borrowed from the American Cancer Society which showed the deposits left in the lung by ONE cigarette. Two smokers quit on the spot after seeing how each puff from their own cigarettes left a smear of disgusting looking yellow-orange and gray deposits on a cotton ball.

Luanna Urie brought along a video on cholesterol and many handouts to help people choose lower-cholesterol sandwiches, fast-food, and other food items. She also handed out air-popped popcorn free of any fat, oil, butter or cholesterol. Everyone participating in the little fairs enjoyed the hospitality and conviviality of the Divisions.

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COWABUNGA DUDE!

NINJA TURTLES HELP INTRODUCE THE BLUE LINE



Video director Richard Jackson sets up for a shot with two of the Turtle actors in front of a Blue Line train.

by Jeff Ringsrud, Marketing & Communications Department

The evil villain Gridlock is on the loose, preventing citizens from learning about the new Los Angeles-Long Beach rail line. To the rescue come those renowned heroes, the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, and crack television newswoman April O'Neil, who defeat Gridlock and successfully launch the Blue Line.

With that story line, the RTD Marketing Department and the real Ninja Turtles produced "Operation: Blue Line," a unique motivational video designed to create ridership for the Blue Line. Not only does the 10-minute video feature the hottest new stars of the screen, but the price is right-free.

During the first week of July, a total of 100,000 copies of the video were distributed free by the RTD to families in the

corridor area of the Blue Line.

The promotion also featured a contest based on the video storyline, offering more than 1,000 prizes to the lucky winners, with a grand prize of a trip to Hawaii.

"While making and giving away a cartoon character-based video may seem unusual for a marketing program, it ultimately proved to be the answer to several complex challenges we were facing with the introduction of the Blue Line," says Tony Fortuno, director of Marketing and Communications.

"Basically, we had to deliver a rather lengthy message in two languages to a specific target audience along the corridor of the Blue Line in a form that would get people's attention, in order to generate a good deal of excitement and ridership for the new system of rail transportation," says Fortuno. "And of course, we were facing budget limitations."

Although producing and giving away 100,000 videos was a costly project, much of the expense was defrayed by corporate sponsorships, such as that

provided by Southern California Edison.

Marketing and Communications Representative Sherrie Wagner was instrumental in obtaining the rights to use the Ninja Turtles at no cost to the RTD, and was key in acquiring corporate donations from Quality Foods International (Boys Markets), Sanwa Bank, and 7-Up.

"The idea of using the Turtles was the result of attempting to find a Blue Line spokesperson that would appeal to many audiences and was bilingual," says Ms. Wagner.

"KCOP-TV Channel 13 put us in contact with the licensing agents for the Turtles and we were granted the rights to use them free as a public service. This was before the Ninja Turtles' feature motion picture was released and became the number one grossing movie of the year. Now, I'm told, the rights to use the Turtles are \$10,000 a day."

Once the Turtles were acquired, the Marketing staff was able to get commitments from private sector firms in exchange for

continued on page 29 . . .



Employees from Telephone Information, who served as extras in the filming of the crowd scene posed with a few of the stars during a break in the filming at the Blue Line Del Amo Station. Pictured from left, are: April Clark, Lola Gagner, Eleodora Cruz, Holly Lyons, Alonzo Williams, Joyce Milas, and Huey-Ling Leung.



The USC Trojan Marching Band volunteered to provide the mood music for a portion of "Operation: Blueline."

exposure in the video.

While the appearance of the Turtles would assure an audience for the video, Promotions Manager Alice Tolbert-Wiggins developed a public contest based on the information contained in the video.

"More than 1,000 prizes from sources such as AMTRAK, the Dodgers, and La Pizza Loca were obtained," says Ms. Tolbert-Wiggins.

"To enter, participants had to answer three questions relating to the video. The questions aren't hard, but you have to watch the video to find the answers. Winners will be announced in August."

Harry Goldsborough, marketing research specialist, who served as project manager for the video says, "Because of budget limitations we had to squeeze a two-week shooting schedule into four days.

"As a new employee of the District, I was very impressed with the enthu-

siastic help we received from everyone at the RTD--especially with such an unusual project as a *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle* video," says Goldsborough.

"We had to make some difficult demands on employees from various departments because of the schedule. Everyone came through immediately and enthusiastically."

Special thanks are extended from the Marketing Department to Rich Morton and Rail Equipment Maintenance; Danny Ortiz and the Transportation Department; Lt. Ron Eutsey and the Transit Police; Brian Soto and General Services; Elfriede Becker and Telephone Information; and to all the RTD people who made the video possible.



Marketing Research Specialist Harry Goldsborough, left, discusses an upcoming scene with actress Lori Stewart, center, who portrayed heroine April O'Neil, and video producer Lynn Jackson.

While nearly all of the videotapes are being given to the public living in the Blue Line Corridor, the RTD retained a few for distribution to interested parties. Although the contributions defrayed much of the cost of the videos, the District still incurred some costs. The limited number of tapes are being made available to other transit properties through the Marketing Department as a cost for \$10. District employees who wish a copy, however, can get one through the Employee Activities office for just \$5.

Safe Equipment Can Save Lives

by Robert Torres

The District strives to maintain its buses in a safe condition. However, as with any type of mechanical equipment, problems can occur. This is why the required pre-trip safety inspection by the operator is so important.

The pre-trip safety inspection is required by California State law and can result in the detection of equipment defects that could potentially cause or contribute to an accident or ultimate injury. For instance, rear door systems must be in good operating condition in order to safely allow proper discharge of passengers. Headlights and taillights must be working so that the operator can adequately see *continued on page 44 . . .*

A Day in the Life Division 12 . . .

Nestled along the crook of the Long Beach Freeway as it winds its way into downtown Long Beach, Division 12 occupies 5 acres at 970 W. Chester Place. Formerly, it was property of the Pacific Electric Railway Company and controlled from the Sixth and Main Street Station in Los Angeles, until the property was sold to the Metropolitan Coach Lines in October, 1953.

Division 12 was officially opened as a division point on January 30, 1955, and known as Long Beach Division with control of outlying terminals at Fullerton, Newport Beach, and Santa Ana for coach service and Watts for local rail service.

In 1955, Division 12 had approximately 60 rail cars, 50 motor coaches, and 215 operators assigned.

With the formation of the Transit Authority on March 3, 1958, the outside terminals at Fullerton and Santa Ana were transferred to the old Division 11.

On August 15, 1958, the old Long Beach division was officially assigned as Division 12, its present identification with control of Newport Beach and Watts Terminals.

By November of 1959, the Watts Local Rail Service was replaced by motor coaches and the terminal at Watts was abolished.

During 1959, Division 12 operated 1,094,668 rail miles and 2,339,738 motor coach miles. A total of 3,434,406 service miles.

On April 8, 1961, the last day of "Red Car" rail service; Division 12 was converted to a coach division. At that time 85 coaches and 151 operators were assigned. Today, 257 operators work out of the division under the management of Eugene Hamilton. Forty-one mechanics, along with 26 service attendants, maintain 148 buses under the supervision of Maintenance Manager Jim Davis.

photography by
Mario Neri



Operator Louis Boykins greets sun-up at Division 12 with a doff of his hat and an adjustment of his mirror.

A Day In the Life Division 12



Division 12 Transportation Manager Eugene Hamilton confers with TOS-Instructor Patricia Alexander. The train room at Division 12 at mid-morning has a less urgent and hurried look after early morning roll-out has come and gone.

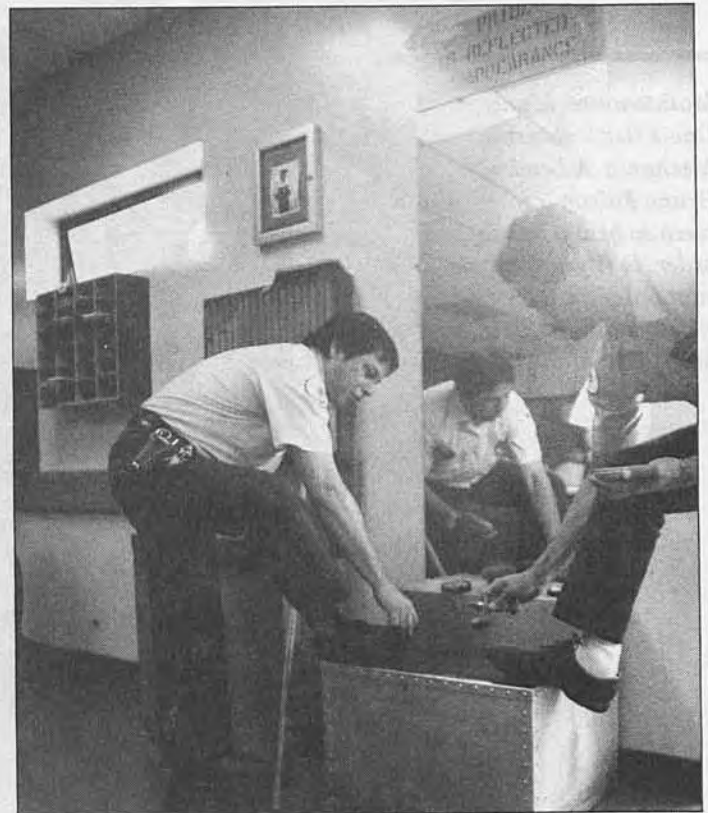


The Train Room



Operators Phung V. Dinh (left) and Khanh Trinh unwind from the day's run with a little ping-pong.

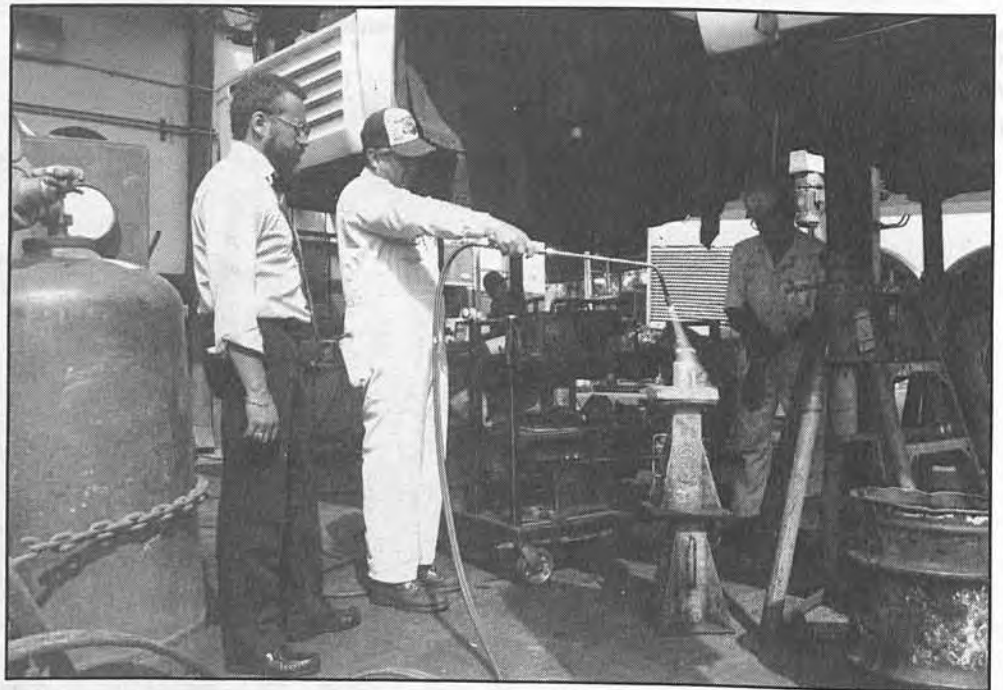
Operator Joe Avelino (left) and Bruce White (right) pay homage to the axiom: "Pride is Reflected in Appearance" by putting on the finishing touch that gives it the final luster.





Operator Bertha Harris (left) and Steno Rissa Harris show off their best sides.

Maintenance Manager Jim Davis (left) observes as Mechanic A Leadman Bruno Falcon (center) uses a torch to heat a bushing in order to fit into a slat support of an RTS. With them (right) is CMF Machinist Manuel Macias.





Electronic Communications Technician Bob Slaughter troubleshoots the bus' electrical system.



Mechanic A Richard Milroy prepares his airgun for tightening the lug nuts on the rear tires of the bus.



On lunch break at Maintenance, clockwise around the domino table are: Mechanic A Leadman Paul Harvel, Service Attendant Albert Guzman, Mechanic A Alberto Semadeni, Abe Esmailzadeh, Rudy Round, and James Ellery.



Service Attendant Quan Mai takes on a huge washing job--a bus tow truck.



Mechanic A James Ellery checks out the radiator.



"It's a dirty job, but someone's got to do it," says Mechanic A Albert Semadeni as he washes off a layer of grease.



Equipment Maintenance Supervisor George Lau sends out a broadcast to maintenance staff all over the yard.

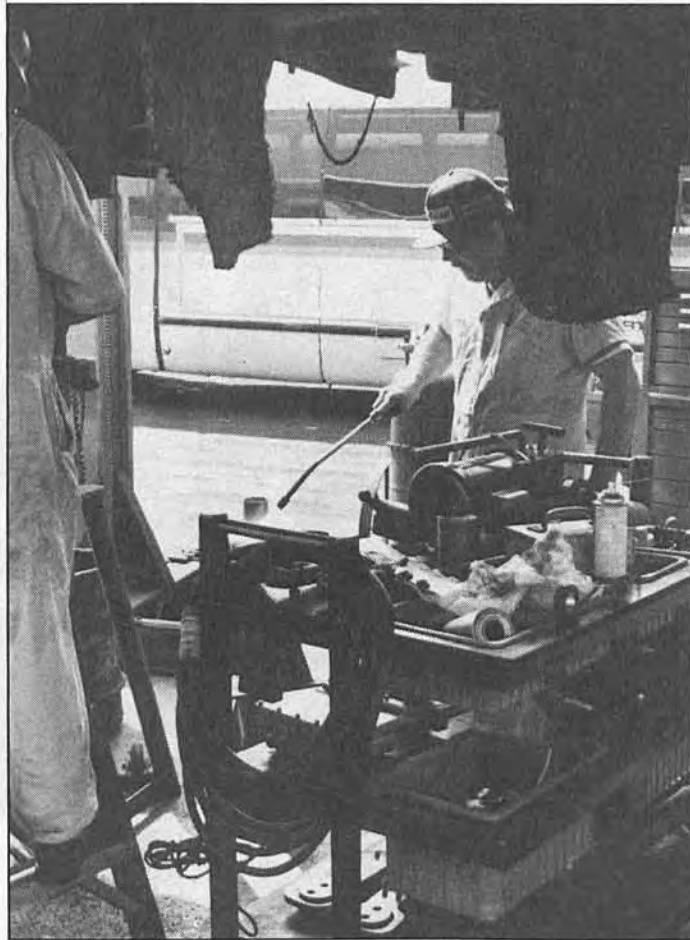
Mechanic A Jim Shelter (left) and Leadman John Conroy (right) team up to install a rear wheel well.





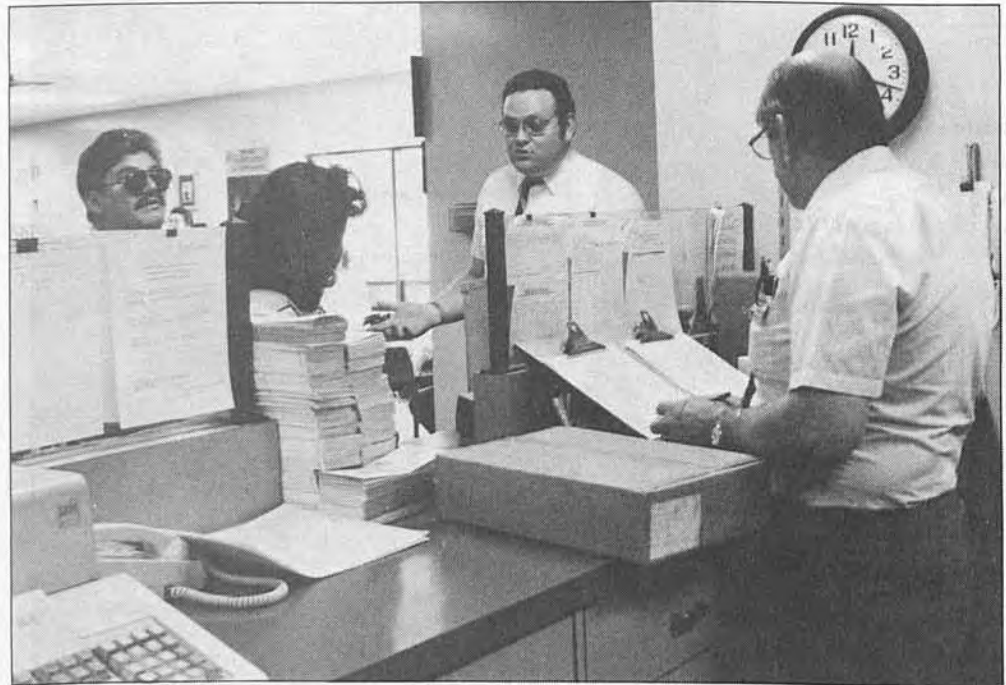
Instructor Delores Isom (center) appeals to Leadman of the Body Shop, John Conroy (left), for help in hanging up signs in the Transportation Building. Conroy came highly recommended by Assistant Maintenance Manager Howard Shelter (right).

Mechanic A Keith Nelson prepares to return underneath the belly of the bus once he has found the proper tool.





"Good Morning Division 12" is the wakeup call as Operators sign on with TOS Jack Hall (behind the counter), (in front of counter), from left to right: Kirk Davis and Alma Lucious.



Assistant Manager Jim Lukens (center) bids a good morning to TOS Jack Hall and operators signing on for early morning pull-out.



Transit Police Officers stop to check in on the night shift maintenance workers. Leadlady Terry Owens chats a moment with Officer William Thompson while Service Attendant Leslie Davison pumps gas.

Operator Sara Cross likes to work the night shift. After 11 years with the RTD, she's decided it's a lot nicer not having to fight the heavy traffic.



Cinco de Mayo at the Divisions



Welcome to Division 3's 1990 Cinco de Mayo celebration.

Division 3

Divisions 3 and 15 decided to get a jump on Cinco de Mayo and celebrated Mexican Independence Day on May 4. Division 3's Unity and Friendship Committee started stoking the barbecue at 6 a.m. to prepare a menu of carne asada, cheese enchilada casserole, rice, beans, and salad. The traditional feast was served from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The chief chefs included Maria Flores, her husband David, Bill Wilkison, and Joanne Johnson. Servers were Tony Natividad, Jerry Farias, and Pat De La Paz. "We really wanted to do this as a means to boost morale since we spend so much of our day here," said Committee Chairperson Maria Flores. The United Transportation Union donated \$600 to defray costs for food and supplies. "We also got a lot of support from our manager, Mr. Starks," said Ms. Flores. In addition to the food being sold, committee members sold t-shirts with Division 3's theme:

"Life is Eventful at Division 3," a reference to the fact that the division services so many venues in Los Angeles: Dodger Stadium, Santa Anita, the Sports Arena, and many more. The back of the t-shirt has their logo screened on it: "Unity and Friendship." The art depicts grasped hands of different colors. "All different nationalities



Operator Steve Morales brought his daughter, Jennifer, 2, along to listen to Los Mariachis Perla Tapatia.

work at Division 3," said Ms. Flores, "we intended to show how well we work together."

What would Cinco de Mayo be without music, especially the sound of strings and brass? Division 3 did not overlook this authentic taste of the Mexican tradition--entertainment was provided by Los Mariachis Perla Tapatia. Members of the committee included: David Flores, Maria Flores, Bill Wilkison, Joanne Johnson, Patricia De La Paz, Carolyn Proctor, Patricia Mayes-Stewart, Rose Mendoza, Robert De La Fuente, and Edith Villanueva.



Maria and David Flores help out in the kitchen preparing the carne asada and the enchiladas.



Bill Wilkison, left, and Mario Jaurequi, right, supervise the charbroiling of the carne asada. It was a beautiful day to spend with co-workers enjoying good food, fun, and music.

Division 15

by Susan Harvey

On Friday, May 4, 1990, Division 3215 celebrated our First Annual Cinco de Mayo Day, and it was an outstanding success. Operators Rosa Graciano and Arlene Alvidrez planned the party and helped to form the committee. Those people on the committee were: Kathy Overturf, Celia Deming, Porfino Gomez, Eddie Lopez, Arlene, and Rosa.

On the Sunday before Cinco de Mayo, the committee totally decorated the whole division with streamers, balloons, and pinatas. On Friday they brought in fresh flowers and more balloons. The division looked lovely! Music was provided by our own D.J., the exceptional Darryl Richardson. Salsa music combined with home-made salsa and guacamole.

continued on page 43 . . .

Cinco de Mayo

... continued from page 42



The exceptional Division 15 Cinco de Mayo committee included, front row, from left to right: Rosa Graciano and Porfino Gomez. Second row, from left to right: Susan Harvey, Kathy Overturf, Celia Deming, Eddie Lopez, Arlene Alvidriz, and Harold Hollis.



Enjoying the taste of Cinco de Mayo were, clockwise around the table: Kevin Jefferys, Alice Colantonio, Debby Johnson, VO Supervisor Kathy Hunsinger, Jesus Diaz, and Bonifacio Horta.

Porfino and Eddie handled the barbecue and the menu included: carne asada, rice, beans, fruit cup, tamales, and tortillas.

All the operators agreed it was the best Cinco de Mayo ever. Our thanks to a great committee!

Al Boctor helps Operator Rosa Graciano's daughter get within striking distance of the pinata.



Music was provided by D. J. Darryl Richardson.



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Time: 7:00 p.m.

Length of Seminar: One hour

Place: 400 South Hope Street
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Downtown Los Angeles

Refreshments will be served

Parking Validation Available

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(213) 236-2125 or (800) 937-0620 x 2125

Seminars are one hour in length, are held every second Monday of the month, and cover the important decisions you have to face regarding your retirement from the RTD. We strongly recommend that both you and your spouse attend. Please call ahead to reserve a space at the Seminar and for directions. The Seminar is free. There is no obligation.

Looking for Memorabilia

WANTED: Cash offers for Safety Awards and Cap Badges from Los Angeles Transit Lines, Metropolitan Transit Authority, and

Pacific Electric Railway. Please call or write: Roy Fizer, 1254 West 36th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90007. (213) 735-9145

Wanted: Serious Runners

To all RTD employees, Manuel Duarte-Orive and myself, Richard Lopez, are interested in forming an organized running club, open to all interested persons.

Training for next year's marathon, March 3, 1991, will begin in June. Running tips and techniques, including actual timed and distance-measured running, jogging, and walking will be held at pre-set locations.

The Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Griffith Park in Los Angeles, Whittier Narrows in Whittier, San Gabrielito Trail in Altadena, Santa Monica to Redondo

Beach are a few of the designated areas we have in mind for running.

Workshops discussing diet, stretching, new products, equipment discounts will be available on a flexible schedule at a pre-determined location.

We hope to show up at next year's marathon with team spirit, team colors, and strong finishing attitude. Please, serious inquiries only.

Contact: Richard Lopez or Manuel Duarte-Orive at Division 3207, public phone numbers--(213)855-9383/855-9376/855-9377/or 855-9697. Do not call division dispatcher.

Banuelos is Making Tracks



Retiree Larry Banuelos takes third place at the World Veterans Track and Field Championships in Eugene, Oregon. Banuelos is a retired RTD mechanic.

Retired Mechanic Larry Banuelos, 65, was listed as one of the Runners of the Year for 1989 in *Running Times* magazine.

At the World Veterans Track and Field Championships in Eugene, Oregon

in 1989, Banuelos was third in the 10K road race (39:30) and third in the 5K (19:04) on the track. His personal best for the 5K is 18:11, and for the 10K is 37:59. Both were set in the 60 to 64 age group. In the last five years, Banuelos reports he's won "exactly 452 races with only 20 losses." Now that's a win-loss record we can all be proud of.

and be seen. Windshield wipers and defrosters must be in good working condition in order to safely drive in inclement weather.

Should an operator find a safety related defect

BIRTHS

Born to MIS Secretary Lynn Ong and her husband, Ben Truong, a son, Jonathan, on April 6, 1990 in Pasadena. Jonathan was 8 lbs., 7-1/2 oz. and 21 inches at birth. Here, young Jonathan poses with his mother and his sister, Jennifer, 2.



Born to the daughter of Division 3 Operator Samuel McCoy, Christine Lapetina, a granddaughter, Lauren Austin, on May 18, 1990. Young Lauren weighed 8 lbs., 15 oz. and was 20-1/2 inches long at birth. Operator McCoy has been with the RTD for 16 years. "She's a beautiful little granddaughter," said McCoy. "My wife Yvonne and I are very proud of her."



Born to Division 12 Operator Stephen Blanchard and his wife, Becky, a 7 lb., 10 oz. baby boy, Spencer Mason, on December 9, 1989. Spencer was 20 inches long and is their first child. Spencer's grandmother, Linda Blanchard, is currently working as Acting Senior Instructor at Division 15.

Safe Equipment Can Save Lives

... continued from page 29

during the pre-trip inspection, maintenance personnel will need to correct the condition before the bus is placed in service. With over 2,000 buses pulling out each day, this can be quite a challenging task, but it is one to

which the Maintenance Department is committed.

So it really is a team effort; District employees doing their best to ensure that safe and reliable equipment is always used to provide safe and efficient service to our patrons.

Recent Retirees . . .

Jim and Harriett Porter

Division 4 Equipment Maintenance Supervisor Jim Porter and his wife, Utility B Harriett Porter, both retired March 30, 1990. Jim had given 30 years of service and Harriett had contributed 17 years. They sent this note for publication:

To all our many friends, Let us take this opportunity to say many thanks for the wonderful send-off. Thanks to Telecom and the lovely

lunch. Thanks to Division 2 for a great barbecue and the rod and reel. Thanks to Division 4 and their lovely card and gift. Thanks to CMF for a great potluck and the moneytree. And many thanks to Betty Mons, Mary Martinez, and Mike Bujosa for the wonderful video they put together with farewell greetings from all our good friends. It is something we will treasure forever.

*Retirement is great!
Jim and Harriett Porter*



Jim and Harriett Porter are happy in their retirement.

Ellis Wilson

April 1 was a special day for Operator Ellis Wilson filled with love, laughter, and memories as he celebrated his retirement from the RTD and his birthday.

Wilson was surprised and honored by his wife Laverne, his children, and approximately 100 family members and friends as they gathered to help Wilson with his double celebration at the Hacienda Hotel in El Segundo.

Ellis and Laverne

Wilson are the proud parents of ten children, six girls and four boys. Eight of their children were in attendance. Greetings were given by Regina Wilson Matlock, the youngest of the six daughters. The invocation was made by Victor Wilson, the third oldest son.

The mistress of ceremonies was Jean Walker McQueen, sister-in-law to Ellis. Mrs. McQueen gave a brief but interesting characterization of Ellis Wilson's life from the time



Joining Division 10 Operator Ellis Wilson in celebrating both his birthday and his retirement from the RTD on April 1 were his wife and family. Front row, from left to right: Estella Wilson Blakely, Victor, Ellis, Laverne, and David. Back row, from left to right: Allyson Wilson McGee, Janet Wilson Woodberry, Christine Wilson Brown, Vida Wilson Scott, and Regina Wilson Matlock. Not pictured are sons Ronnie and Ellis, Jr.

of his birth to the present, specifying his graduation from high school, his service in the U.S. Army, his migration to Los Angeles after an honorable discharge, attending photography school, starting his own photography business, his marriage to Laverne, the birth of their children, and their recognition as the Black family of the year in 1986 by the Coca Cola Bottling Company and the Boys Markets.

Wilson worked for the RTD for 14 years meanwhile entrusting the photography business to his wife.

Guest speakers paying tribute to Wilson included Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey and UTU Local Chairman Archie Grant, Jr.

Ms. Bailey presented Wilson with a plaque for his years of distinguished service in the public

transportation industry and signed scrolls. Mr. Grant presented him with a jacket from the UTU and spoke of his professional and personal friendship with Mr. Wilson.

Commendations signed by Mayor Tom Bradley and Assemblywoman Maxine Waters were presented to Wilson by his daughters, Estella Wilson Blakely and Janet Wilson Woodberry. A plaque of love and admiration and a 15 x 6-foot card portraying Ellis with his wife and children through every imaginable phase of his life was presented to him by his youngest son David.

Closing remarks were made by Laverne Wilson expressing appreciation to friends for joining the family in celebration. The family members danced to the tune of "Through the Years" and were joined by their friends.

Come Meet Your Fellow Retirees

Dear Fellow RTD Retirees:

This is a cordial invitation inviting you and your spouse or friend to come and enjoy a pleasant reunion with some of your fellow RTD retirees.

Monthly social meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at noon in the Town Hall of the Orange Empire Railway Museum (Perris) and on the second Thursday of each month at the City of Commerce Aquatorium (Commerce) at noon.

The main purpose of each club is to provide a relaxed and comfortable environment for RTD retirees to meet and socialize. The meetings commence with a pot luck lunch. Each couple is asked to bring enough hot food or dessert to feed themselves and one additional person (sometimes we have visitors) plus your own utensils: plates, knives, forks, spoons, etc. The club will provide coffee and cups. Kitchen facilities are available enabling us to heat or reheat hot dishes. After lunch there is a discussion of old, current, and new business.

One dollar per person is collected at the entrance. Half of the proceeds are returned to some lucky members by means of a ticket raffle, the other half is used for club expenses.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our socials in the near future. There is never any pressure urging you to join the club. Come and visit, then decide for yourself. If you

would like to come early, the Town Hall and the Aquatorium are always open by 10:30 a.m.

If you have any questions, please contact any of those listed below.

Bill McGee
Club President
(Perris)
714-929-3598

Joseph Stephens
Club President
(Commerce)
818-284-7236

DIRECTIONS

Perris

From north or south on SR215 go west on 4th Street (Hwy 74) and make a left on "A" Street and a left on Mapes Road (the first street south of the museum parking lot) and a left along a private road to the "Town Hall."

Town Hall of Orange Empire Railway Museum, 2201 A Street, Perris, CA.

Commerce

Westbound on the Santa Ana Fwy: Take

Washington Blvd. turnoff, then turn right on Telegraph Road, right on Washington Blvd. and at the 3rd traffic light, which is Commerce Way, turn right to the Aquatorium.

Eastbound on the Santa Ana Fwy: Take Washington Blvd. turnoff, then west on Washington Blvd. and at the 2nd traffic light, which is Commerce Way, turn right to the Aquatorium.

Commerce Aquatorium, 2535 Commerce Way, City of Commerce, CA.

Employee's Son Receives Scholarship

Maintenance Supervisor I Juan Castro's son, Frank, a senior at Don Bosco Technical School in Rosemead, received a \$1,500 scholarship from the National Hispanic Scholar Awards Program.

Castro was one of 500 students to receive the scholarship. He entered the Hispanic awards competition when he took the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship qualifying test as a junior.

Award selection was based on grade point average, test scores, personal qualities, and community involvement.

Castro has been accepted to several universities, including the University of Pennsylvania, UCLA, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, Harvey Mudd, and Cal Poly Pomona. He will probably attend Harvey Mudd, which he considers

the best engineering school in the country and accepts only 150 freshmen per year. While at Bosco Tech, his extra-curricular activities included Chess Club, Screen Printing Club, Computer Club, National Honor Society, and the school newspaper.

Active in Boy Scouts since the sixth grade, he received the Ad Altare Dei Award and recognition for completing a 50-mile hike. Currently, he participates in an amateur hockey league.

He plans a career in electronics, but would also like to visit Peru and Europe. "I want to visit the countries of my ancestors and see how people live there," he said. "By visiting these places I hope to enlarge my global perspective. I think I will be able to make better decisions in life if I have a well-rounded view of the world."

Now It's Your Turn At Bat

The consultants and engineers have had their shot--now it's time for you to offer solutions for solving traffic problems.

The public is invited to suggest 90 different ideas to reduce traffic congestion and improve mobility.

Write down your suggestions and mail them to:

"People Moving LA in the 90s"
P.O. Box 56329
Sherman Oaks, CA
91413

For entries to be eligible for prizes they must be post-marked no later than August 23, 1990. The 90 winners, whose ideas will be selected to be potentially implemented, will be honored at an awards luncheon and will be presented with a transit T-shirt and one RTD monthly pass.

Our Children Are Fine and Doing Well

Daughter Crowned Cinco de Mayo Queen

Denise Limon



Denise Limon, daughter of Division 18 Operator Irma Limon, was crowned Cinco de Mayo Queen at Norwalk High School.

Denise Limon, daughter of Division 18 Operator Irma Limon, was crowned the 1990 Cinco de Mayo Queen at Norwalk High School. A sophomore at Norwalk, Denise entered the competition by selling tickets through the MECHA organization with the proceeds going to fund scholarships for seniors. Denise raised \$964. Altogether the top five sellers raised \$2,024 for the club. Denise is grateful to all those who supported her by purchasing tickets. She extends a special thanks to Sheriff Sherman Block for his generous contribution. Denise is an active member of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Explorers Program in the city of Norwalk.

Asian/Pacific Heritage Contest

Michael Montes

Children of two RTD employees were declared first- and second-place winners in the city-wide Asian/Pacific-American Heritage Week Annual Poster and Essay Contest held May 10-21 and were presented their awards by Mayor Tom Bradley at City Hall on May 14. Michael Zepeda Montes, son of Division 10 Operator Michael Montes, won first place in his division for his essay on Asian/Pacific Americans in the 21st Century. As first-place winner, Michael received a certificate of merit from Assemblyman Willie Brown Jr., a \$100 U.S. savings bond, and 4 tickets to Sea World. He is in the fifth grade and attends Sierra Park School.



Michael Montes, son of Division 10 Operator Michael Montes, is presented with a certificate of merit by Mayor Bradley and four tickets to Sea World from Shamu for his essay on the contributions of Asian/Pacific Americans in the 21st Century.

Eric Calbo

Eric Calbo, son of MIS Lead Data Processing Operator Herbert Calbo, won second place in the competition for a poster he created. Eric is in kindergarten at the Calvary Lutheran School. The parents of the winners were guests of the Asian/Pacific American Heritage Committee at a dinner held at the Bonaventure Hotel on May 18.



Eric Calbo, son of Data Processing Operator Herbert Calbo, took second place honors for his poster in the Asian/Pacific Heritage Week competition.

Restaurant Review

by Susan Harvey, Div. 15
Asst. Manager

Several operators have been kind enough to share restaurants that they consider worth trying. I would like to thank Operator Mike Mestynek for recommending Damon's in Glendale.

Damon's is a steak house and that's what they do best. The decor is in early Don the Beachcomber with lots of fake Polynesian decorations around the room and Mai Tai's as the house drink.

The menu is very simple, steaks. You have top sirloin, New York, ground and tenderloin. All the dinners come with a large bowl of salad with the house dressing, which was very good. They toss the salad at the table. Be sure to order the garlic bread to go along with the salad.

The steaks are large and very good. We found the tenderloin to be excellent. There was a

big, thick filet mignon that we asked them to butterfly for us.

All steaks are served with a choice of potato, try the baked potato. There are some fish and chicken dishes on the menu, but stick to the steaks. They are good and they are inexpensive.

Damon's Steak House 317 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale (818) 507-1510

Operator Roger Flack and his wife recommended a new restaurant--La Gondola, on Wilshire Blvd. The restaurant is a small, intimate, nicely decorated Italian restaurant.

They bring fresh, hot bread over as soon as you are seated and the service is excellent. The menu is a la carte, however, the chicken, veal, and fish are all served with fresh vegetables and pasta.

The pasta is reasonably priced and very good. Try the ravioli in vodka sauce. This is a very mild but *continued on page 49...*

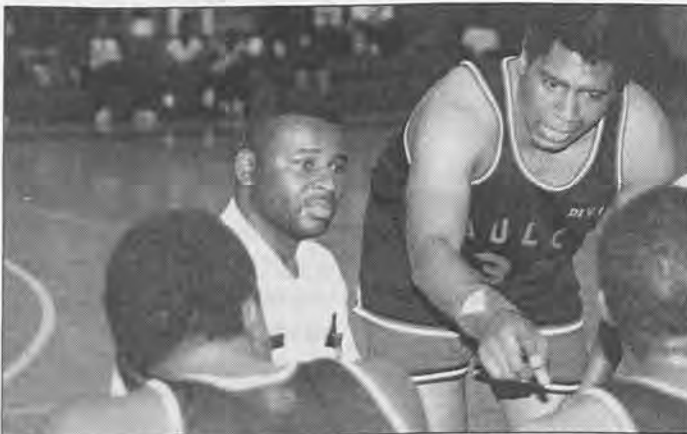
The Heat Was Too Hot for the Bulls



The victorious Division 5 Heat. Front row, from left to right: Aaron Montgomery, Player-Coach Roland Haywood, Vernell Elgin, and Lorenzo Morrison. Second row, from left to right: Charles Burke, Brian Flowers, Robert Hutcheson, Jimmy Daniels, Larry Chandler.



MVP for the Heat, #21 Jimmy Daniels slows down the game while being guarded by Clyde Brawley of the Bulls.



Coach Richard Wright of the Bulls discussed tactics for an unsuccessful second half run. Karl Washington (right) added his concerns.

Diane Talton, Sports Editor

RTD Basketball season culminated with an exciting final play-off game between the defending champion Bulls of Division

The Bulls were undefeated in the play-offs when they met the Heat. This meant the underdog Heat had to beat the Bulls two games to capture the championship.

6 and the Heat, newcomers from Division 5.

The first half was extremely close with the Heat just nudging ahead 27-26 at the buzzer. The second half, the Heat ignited and went on to win by a 10-point margin 71-61. This was the second consecutive season that the defending champions were toppled.

The double eliminating tournament started with four teams; the Heat, Bulls, Bad Boys of the CMF, and Blazers, also of Division 5, rounding out the field.

The Bulls were undefeated in the play-offs when they met the Heat. This meant the underdog Heat had to beat the Bulls two games to capture the championship. The Heat rallied to the occasion and walked away with the championship.

Congratulations to the guys at 5 and all the participants in the basketball league.



Division 6 Bulls look forward to next year. Front row, from left to right: Joe Munn, Ernest Love, Gene Freeman, Ronnie Scott, Karl Washington, and Tyrone Gillison. Second row, from left to right: Coach Richard Wright, Tyrone Richardson, Al Cromer, Clyde Brawley, and Johnny Hardwick.

To Your Health



by Paul Lonquich, M.D.

Why Chronic Dieting Doesn't Work

Chronic dieting doesn't work. In fact, it can make you gain weight. This is frustrating when you know that obesity can cause or aggravate heart disease, strokes, high blood pressure, gallbladder disease, arthritis, and diabetes. Rather than dieting, changes in food selections, an exercise plan, and an "attitude adjustment" can help you lose weight and keep it off. Many of you are probably thinking: "The only place close to my stop-over serves nothing but greasy chili burgers and fries" or the "roach coach" that visits the Division only has junk food.

One comedian said the root of the word diet is "to die." It conjures up the dying urge to eat, and a life filled with deprivation and wilted celery sticks. The common phrase "going on a diet" gives you the feeling that it is something you start but are able to quit. The thought of dieting makes you hungry for foods you had even forgotten about. Dieting may be the "in" social thing to do but

the statistics show that it is simply not working. Only 5% of all dieters will have maintained their weight loss at the end of one year. That's not too encouraging when you consider the average American diets 3-4 times annually. Here at Headquarters these percentages do not apply, a number of people have done very well and maintained their weight by going on the Weight Watchers program held on Tuesday afternoon.

Why Diets Don't Work...

People who diet often can lower their metabolism enough to decrease their caloric needs. This can be done in two ways: 1) a diet of less than 1000-1200 calories can actually cause a starvation-like state and force your body to conserve calories. The body will cut back its caloric needs to survive. Therefore, you won't lose more in the long run on a 500 calorie diet than you would on one above 1000 calories. This starvation state can lower the metabolism for as much as one year. 2) crash dieting can change the body's composition. Let's say you lost 10 pounds in two weeks. Most of that weight was water (5 pounds), some was fat (3 pounds) and the rest was muscle (2 pounds). When the weight is regained (as 95% do), it comes back in the form of fat and water. Every future diet can cycle this downward trend of muscle loss until the chronic dieter can change their percentage of body fat over time from 25% to 35-40%. Muscle burns up

more calories than fat and their chronic dieting has made them lose a large percentage of what helps them keep trim. This yo-yo effect of deprivation and regaining can harm the body. It is better to never have dieted at all than to keep losing and regaining the same 10-20 pounds.

What Does Work...

What does help lose and maintain weight is healthy eating habits and food choices and a more active lifestyle. Take a fresh look at your daily diet and exercise - get rid of the idea that a diet is something you endure for a month after which you can go back to your old habits. Make short and long term goals to slowly change your lifestyle to include healthier food choices and to be more active at work and play.

Look beyond cottage cheese and discover the diet that's best for your overall health. The healthiest diet is rich in complex carbohydrates, fruits, vegetables, fiber, and low fat dairy and protein. It's moderate in meats, polyunsaturated fats, and cholesterol; and it's low in saturated fat, sugar, alcohol, caffeine, simple carbohydrates, sodium, and cured meats. This "diet" is the most important focus of successful weight loss, but it also helps to know about calories. A "calorie counter" can help you select the best nutritional choices for the least number of calories. Diet changes should be slow and permanent. Don't avoid any given food altogether-by

allowing yourself the freedom to eat it, you will eventually be able to be satisfied with one serving and feel no guilt!

Walking is the easiest and safest exercise. Each Division has a one mile course mapped out. After checking with your doctor, exercise at least three times weekly for one-half hour or more. Exercise will make you burn more calories by converting fat to muscle, raise your metabolic rate for up to one day, and burn calories related to the activity. Exercise has been shown to minimize depression and is essential for success.

Watch your attitude. The scale does not measure success. Stop weighing yourself, follow the healthy diet and get regular exercise and you will find your weight does not zoom up.

Restaurant Review

... continued from page 47. tasty alternative to a heavy red sauce. The lasagna is excellent with lots of meat and cheese.

The chicken and veal dishes are outstanding. The chicken is boneless and prepared in a variety of ways, too. Of the best are chicken picatta with a lemon and caper wine sauce and the chicken with shallots and artichoke hearts in a very light cream sauce.

The prices are very reasonable and well worth it for what you get.

La Gondola
6405 Wilshire Blvd.
(213) 855-2191

RECREATION NEWS

Mobile Center Schedule

Operates 9:00 A.M. until 2:15 P.M.

Concert Season at the Greek and Universal Amphitheatre

July

- 15 Reba McEntire - Universal \$21.50
- 20 Soul II Soul - Universal \$25.00
- 21 Johnny Mathis & Dionne Warwick - Greek \$28.00
- 24 Basia - Universal \$24.00
- 26 Spyro Gyra - Greek \$22.50

August

- 4 Michael Franks/Yellowjackets - Greek \$23.50
- 5 Gloria Estefan & Miami Sound Machine - Universal \$27.50
- 11 Temptations/4 Tops - Greek \$26.50
- 12 George Strait - Greek \$25.50
- 17 Jeffrey Osborne - Universal \$23.00
- 25 Los Lobos - Greek \$22.50
- 26 Emmanuel - Universal \$27.50

Dodger and Angels Baseball

Dodgers \$7.50 Angels \$8.50

July

- 8 Dodgers vs Pittsburgh - Helmet Day
- 15 Angels vs Toronto - Old Timer's Game
- 18 Angels vs Milwaukee - Squeeze Bottle
- 25 Dodgers vs San Francisco
- 27 Dodgers vs Atlanta - Autographed Ball Day
- 29 Dodgers vs Atlanta - Sports Sock Day

August

- 5 Angels vs Oakland - Photo Day
- 15 Angels vs New York

Other Summer Events

July

- Mama I want to sing, Part II
- 12 8:00 P.M. \$25.50 half price \$13.25
- 21 3:00 P.M. \$25.50 for \$21.00
- 22 3:00 P.M. \$27.50 for \$23.00
- 28 Ringling Bros. Circus - Long Beach 11:30 A.M. \$10.50

August

- 4 Ringling Bros. - Los Angeles, 11:30 A.M. \$19.50
- 25 thru Sept. 1 Magic Mtn. Special \$11.45

July	Location	August	Location
9	11	1	12
10	1	2	2
11	10	6	11
12	CMF	7	1
16	9	8	10
17	16	9	CMF
18	8	13	3
19	3	14	9
23	6	15	16
24	15	16	8
25	7		
26	5		
30	18		
31	4		

New for the summer NEONS

Logo items on news in green, pink, yellow and orange t-shirts, tank tops, sunglasses, fanny packs, squeeze bottles, laces, socks, see these items on the Mobile unit and at Employee Activities \$1.00 to \$10.00 pricing.

Year around events and items

Movies - AMC, Pacific Walk In, General, Manns, and Edwards \$4.00
Pacific Drive In \$4.50

Amusement Parks

Sea World Adults \$15.75
Child \$11.60

Universal Studios Adults \$16.50
Children (3-11) \$12.50

Magic Mountain Adults \$16.45
Child (under 4 ft.) \$11.00

Wild Rivers Adults \$9.25
Child (3-9) \$7.25

Raging Waters Adults \$10.00
Children (4-10) \$8.00

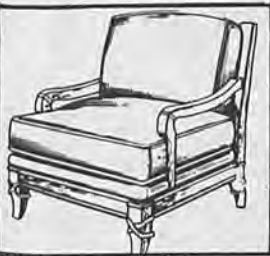
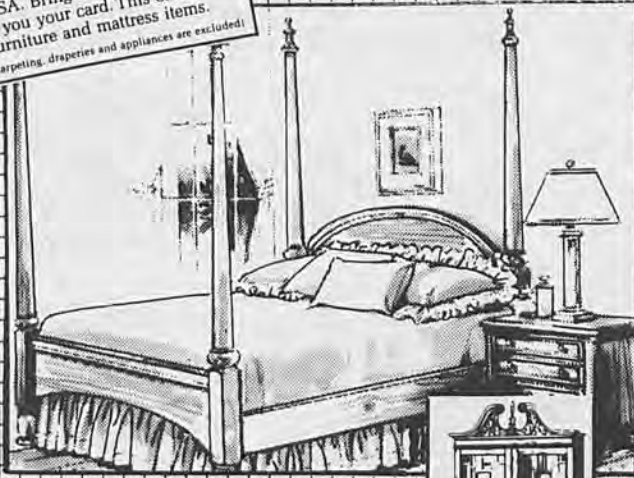
Don't forget vitamins, film, See's candy certificates and gifts for all occasions.

For information in these or other events contact Employee Activities 972-4740. Office is open for sales 10:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M.

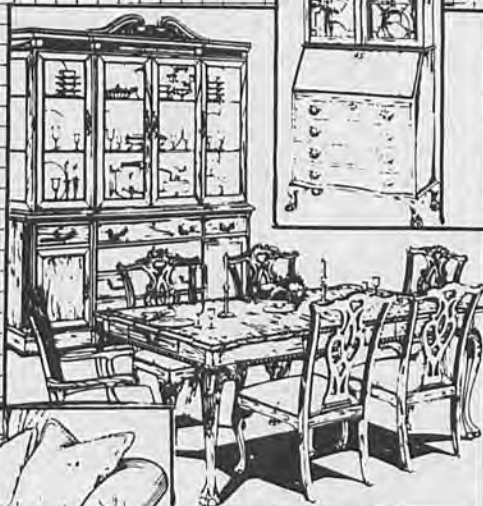
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- Should I go with the company plan, or take my money in a lump sum distribution?
- What are some safe investment choices for my money?
- How can I guarantee the return on my retirement money?



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Carl Jones, retired operator, with his wife Sarah.

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