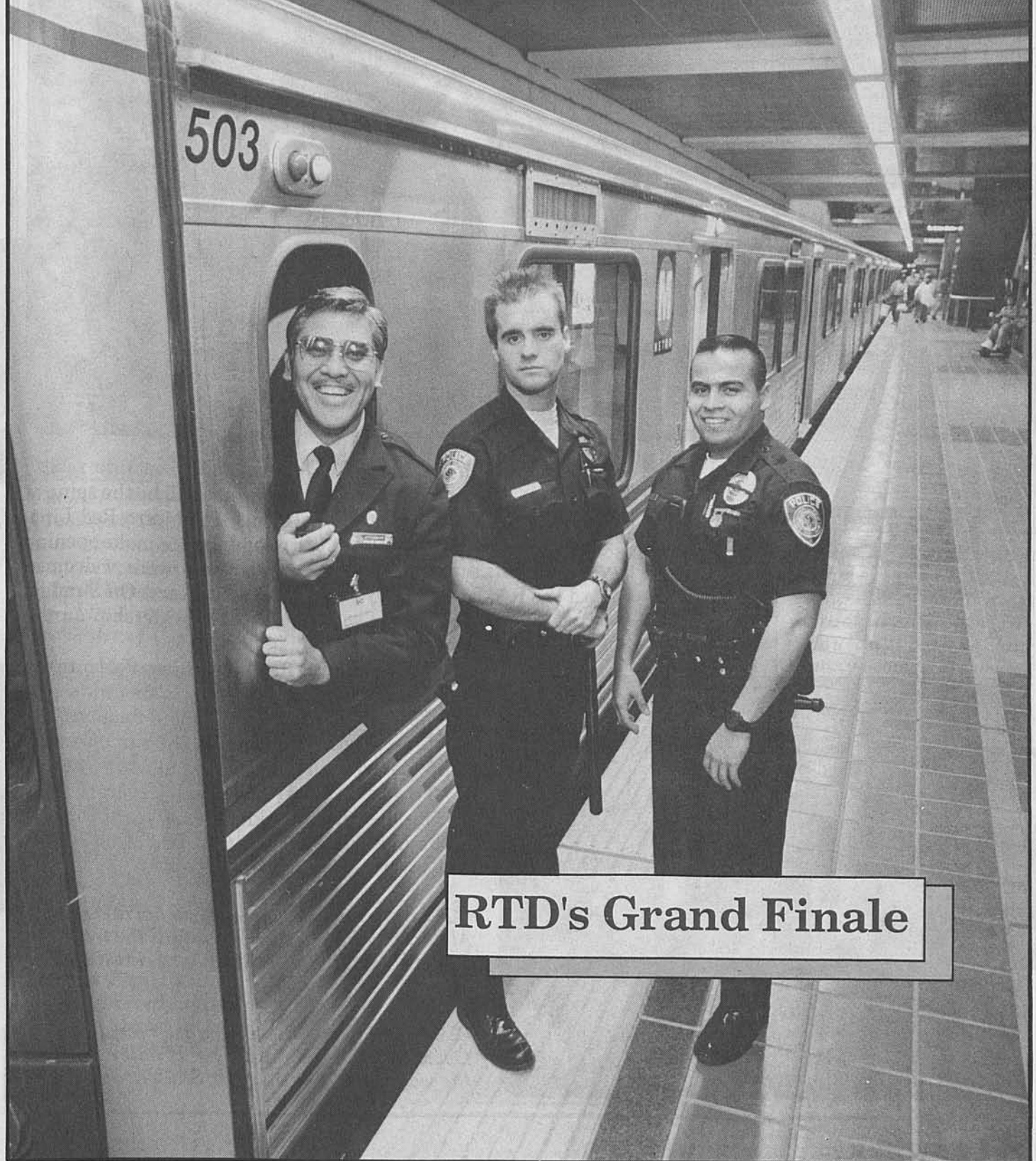


Feb. 1993

Number 2 Volume 21

HEADWAY



RTD's Grand Finale



Red Line Grand Opening

In stunning fashion, the RTD turned a dream into reality January 30, as it inaugurated service on what will be the spine of the world's most modern transit systems, the Metro Red Line. Tight teamwork and top RTD security combined to make opening day a fabulous success. Nearly 53,000 riders were welcomed aboard the Red Line cars by eager RTD volunteers. On Sunday, another 91,000 riders were carried, exceeding ridership on the Blue Line for a comparable two-day period.

As the gleaming Red Line train pulled into the Pershing Square Station, 'Star Wars-esque' music echoed throughout the cavernous underground depot. Red lights illuminated the tunnel as the train, loaded with politicians, pulled to a stop.

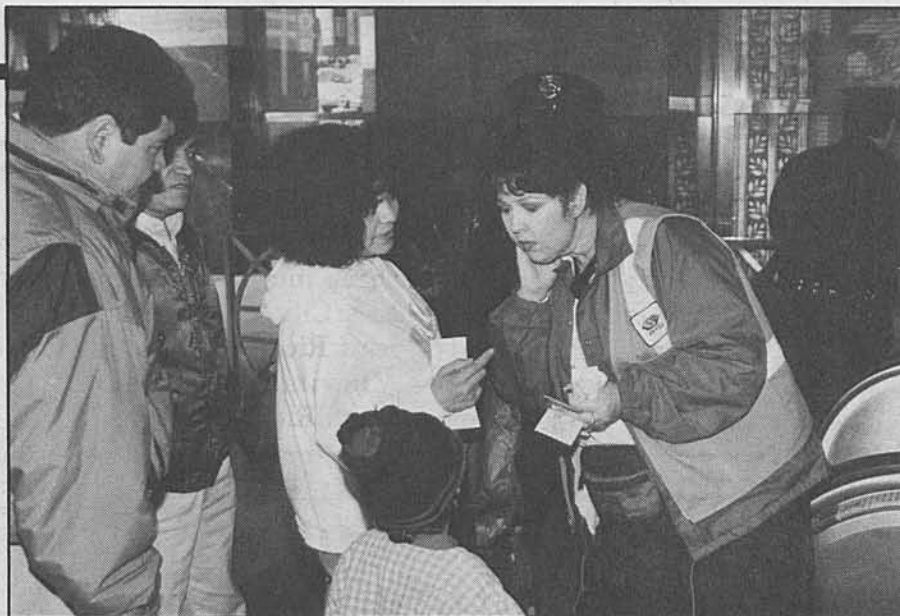
"This is a great day," said Governor Pete Wilson, after disembarking. "In 30 years, this will be the most magnificent transportation system in the world."

(Above) Merger Task Force Chairman Richard Alatorre with the governor aboard the train. Behind Alatorre is RTD Board President Marvin Holen.

(Left) Following the breakfast reception, Governor Wilson and Mayor Bradley lead the way to the Metro Center Station.



RTD Volunteer Diana Parra, OCPM secretary, assists patrons at the Metro Center Station. Almost 4,800 passengers boarded a Red Line car at that station on Opening Day.



A Word from the General Manager



Franklin E. White as the MTA Chief Executive Officer.

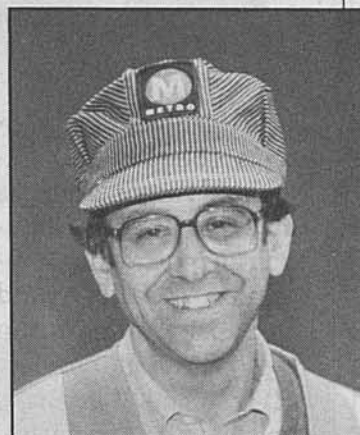
A new day has dawned for mass transit and transportation in Los Angeles with the opening January 30 of the Metro Red Line, the inauguration February 4 of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and the selection of

These three events have special significance, because they will accelerate the development of an integrated, efficient, service-oriented transportation system. The Red Line is only the most recent example, following our success with the Blue Line and the continued 'round-the-clock operations of the nation's second largest bus system.

I want to express my admiration for all RTD employees who worked to bring the Red Line into service, who planned and trained and built and maintained the system. Those who volunteered to host the overwhelming crowds-- more than 140,000 boardings in two days -- and who operated the system without a glitch, have my most sincere appreciation for a job magnificently accomplished.

The opening of the Red Line demonstrated that RTD employees are the experts, tried and true, at operating a high-tech transportation system. It was an exciting ending to an RTD tradition and an outstanding beginning of a new MTA tradition of

Continued on page 23 . . .



Controller-Treasurer Tom Rubin was a volunteer at the opening. Cracked Rubin, "You wouldn't believe how many people were asking me how to get to Pasadena!"



Manager of Government Affairs Gary Clark shakes the hand of Governor Pete Wilson in the foyer of the Hyatt Hotel. Chief Papa watches.



Former RTD Board President Nick Patsouras, among those credited with securing federal funding for the Red Line, is pictured in the center of this photo.



Governor Wilson with Transit Police Chief Sharon Papa. The two had met briefly during the civil unrest in April 1992. She told Headway: "Opening Day went beautifully."

MTA Board Meets for the First Time

The 13 members of the newly-formed Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) were sworn in, and L.A. Councilman Richard Alatorre was selected the Board's first chairman, at the MTA's first historic meeting Thursday, Feb. 4, 1993 at the Hall of Administration in downtown Los Angeles.

The new MTA combines the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) and the Southern California Rapid Transit District (RTD). The merger is the result of legislation passed by the state legislature and signed into law by Governor Pete Wilson.

To comply with the authorizing legislation that created the new policy board, the MTA policy makers voted to delegate back to both the RTD and LACTC each agency's current responsibilities and legal powers until such time as the MTA deems appropriate. This action will allow both agencies to carry forward current programs and services while the new agency organizes.

The 13 voting members of the MTA are:

- The five Los Angeles County Supervisors: Gloria Molina, Yvonne Braithwaite Burke, Ed Edelman, Deane Dana and Mike Antonovich.

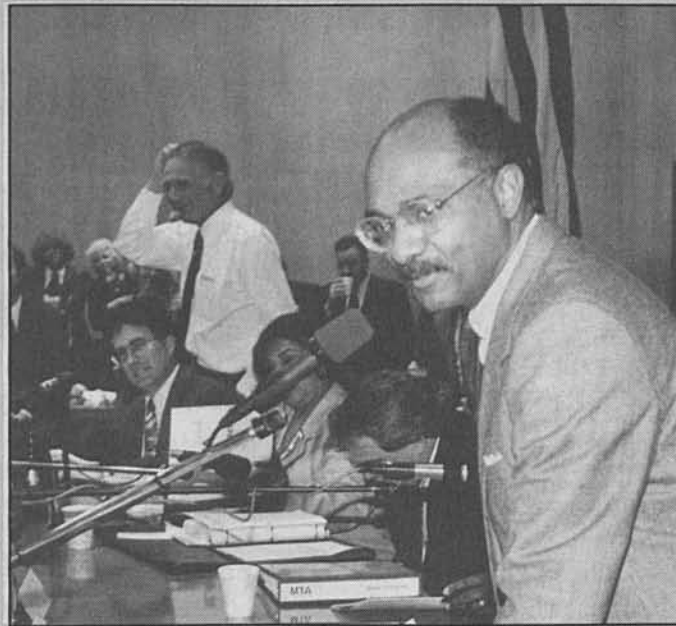
- Mayor Bradley and three mayoral appointees: City Council members Richard Alatorre, Marvin Braude and Mark Ridley-Thomas.

- Four representatives from the League of Cities: Long Beach City Councilman James Cragin, Duarte Mayor John Fasana and Glendale City Councilman Larry Zarian.

Representing the State of California in a non-voting capacity is Cal Trans District 7 Director Jerry B. Baxter.

MTA Board members will be compensated \$150 per meeting attended, up to a maximum of \$600 per month.

Franklin White Named Chief Executive Officer



Franklin White at the first MTA Board meeting

Franklin E. White, the commissioner of the New York State Department of Transportation, has been named chief executive officer of the newly-formed Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), Chairman Richard Alatorre announced.

The unanimous decision choosing White from a field of three finalists to head the agency was made at the first meeting of the 13-member MTA Board. His compensation and starting date as CEO of the MTA are yet to be determined.

As commissioner of the New York DOT since 1985, White, 51, was responsible for 11,500 employees and an annual budget of \$4.3 billion. He previously was secretary of transportation and public safety in Virginia and prior to that served as associ-

Continued on page 26 . . .

About the Cover

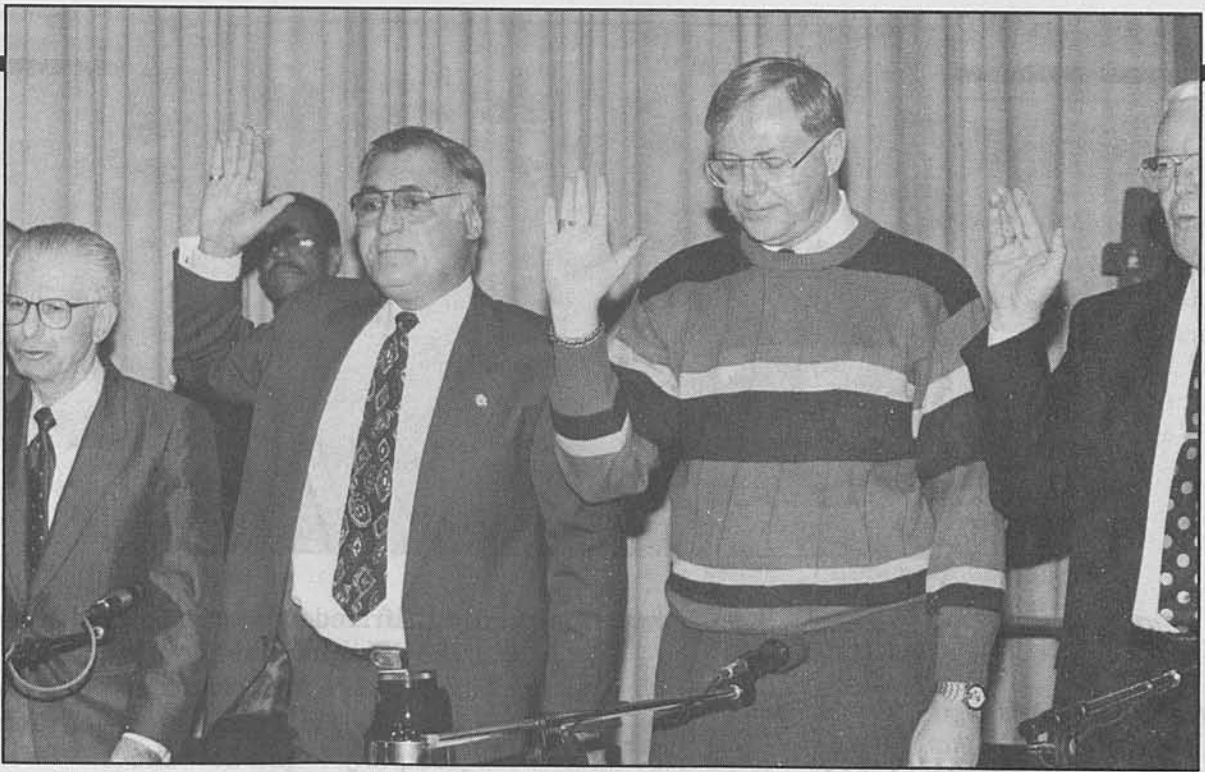
Pictured on our cover this month are, from left, Red Line Operator Norbert Martinez, and Transit Police Officers Albert Calibet and Mike Rodriguez.

A former bus and Blue Line operator, Martinez has worked for the RTD for 18 years. He makes his home in Moreno Valley.

Calibet, who joined the force in December 1990, and Rodriguez, who came aboard in May 1991, are among 45 Transit Police officers assigned to patrol the Red Line.

The photograph was taken at the Westlake Station.

Marvin Braude, Larry Zarian, Mike Antonovich, and James Cragin take the oath of office.



Meet MTA's Newest:

James Cragin, Larry Zarian, and John Fasana

Soon after the MTA Board met for the first time on February 4, Headway contacted the three newest City Selection Committee representatives to the MTA Board: Gardena City Councilman James Cragin, Glendale Mayor Pro-tem Larry Zarian, and Duarte City Councilman John Fasana. The trio is joined by RTD Board Director Evan Anderson Braude.

We inquired about each of the new member's background in transportation and his thoughts on the first meeting. Here are their impressions:

A merger is old hat to new MTA Board member James Cragin. After all, the colorful Cragin was the stores manager for Pacific Electric Railroad when it was sold in 1953 to Metropolitan Coach Lines, a firm specializing in operating buses.

For a number of years, he also had handled claims for the company, riding the buses all over town and learning the territory.

But when the merger came along, he wondered if he would have a job.

Much to his surprise, things at the company improved. "We got better management than we had before."

"I kept my job," he related. "I got an increase in salary and a better working environment."

"The new management was so accessible, he recalled. "And they were good at public relations. "You could go up to the president and ask for two min-



"Tell all your people," James Cragin told Headway, "to be optimistic. We're going to take off like a rocket."

utes of his time -- and you'd get it."

But five years later, when the Metropolitan Transit Authority -- a public agency -- took over the chore of carrying passengers from the privately-owned Metropolitan Coach Lines, he saw bitter politics at play and left the company, going to work for the Auto Club.

Later, he did claims work for Carl Warren, the biggest insur-

Continued on page 27 . . .



Operator Advisory Group Gets Down to Business

“My girlfriend had a gun pointed in her mouth as she drove her bus the other day,” Eloisa Diaz, a Division 10 operator, told her horrified colleagues. “Has anyone called her from this company to ask how she is?”

As her colleagues shook their heads in disgust and shared similar tales of perceived management indifference, Transit Police Sergeant Nick Aldana stood up.

“There’s no way on God’s green earth that you should feel this way,” he said, his voice choking with emotion. “We’re concerned about your safety -- you are our city. It angers me that the operators who are the backbone of this system should feel this way. This shows me there’s a problem somewhere.”

“We need to sit down and talk about it,” he pleaded, poignantly to the 30 operators who had assembled at Division 1 for the first ever meeting of the Operator Advisory Group. “We must not throw daggers at each other.”

The group, brought together by Director of Transportation Dan Ibarra and supported by the United Transportation Union, has been months in the making. It is composed of representatives from each of the bus and rail divisions, as well as operators selected previously by the UTU to serve on the Transit Police task force. Representatives and alternates were elected in November by their colleagues. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month.

Ibarra, a former operator who has long argued that his former colleagues’ suggestions play a major role in the success of the District’s operation, was quick to establish the forum, where gripes are aired and solutions identified.

The first meeting featured presentations by Transit Police Chief Sharon Papa and her senior officers.

“I’m the first to say we’re understaffed,” she told the group of operators, some of whom have yet to be convinced that Transit Police works for them. “In previous years, you were virtually on your own. But now we’re up





to 198 officers, and we have a proposal on the table for the addition of 44 officers a year for each of the next three years.”

Papa also addressed concerns by operators that officers are involved in other law enforcement activities which have nothing to do with the buses. “You wonder why the officers pursue drunk drivers or pull over speeding cars, when it doesn’t affect the buses. Well, they shouldn’t be pulling over traffic unless it is a flagrant violation. Transit Police officers have to intervene because they are state-certified peace officers.”

“Well, what can we do to appropriate funds for more officers?” asked Tom Perna, a long-time bus operator, who now works on the Red Line.

“I’m concerned that I’m the only voice at the Board meetings,” answered Chief Papa. “The (MTA) Board listens to you. You have to come down to the meetings and talk to them. When you do that, you see things change.”

Captain Dennis Conte told the group that top brass will continue to decentralize the transit police operation. “Within the next three months, we’re going to put a substation at El Monte and Pomona and increase the size of our unit at Division 15,” he told the operators, who looked pleased. “We also have plans for substations at 5 and 18.”

Sgt. Aldana, who went to school with Conte, spoke next. “In those days, back when I joined

Continued on page 22 . . .



OAG Members

The following is a list of operators elected by their peers to be members of the Operator Advisory Group. On the second line are the names of those Transit Police Task Force members who represent each division as members of the OAG.

Division 3201

Robert Rodriguez
Connie Johnson

Division 3202

Leon Robertson
Linda Banks

Division 3203

Ruben Perez
Joe White

Division 3205

Franklyn Vooke
Charles Jenkins

More names on page 8. . .



Maintenance employees (from left to right) Arthur Winston, Fay Tinson, and Quincy Bush are among the dozens of RTD workers who must cope daily with the graffiti-vandalism problem.

Ambitious New Program Tolerates / Zero Graffiti on Line 30-31

Zero tolerance is the goal of a new RTD graffiti abatement demonstration project on Line 30-31, which operates from the Wilshire District, through the heart of downtown Los Angeles, into East Los Angeles and Monterey Park.

Beginning Jan. 16, all Line 30-31 buses based at RTD Division 1 were graffiti-free when they left the yard. Any graffiti accumulated during a bus trip was removed within one round-trip, or the bus was removed from service until it could be cleaned. Vandalism to windows and seats were repaired before the next day's runs.

To ensure that the 45 buses assigned to Line 30-31 remain graffiti-free, the RTD has stationed teams of service attendants in terminals at either end of the line. The buses will be thoroughly cleaned each

evening. Early removal of graffiti should prevent it from permanently bonding to vehicle surfaces.

RTD General Manager Alan Pegg said more bus lines at Division 1 may be added to the zero tolerance program as maintenance teams gain experience in dealing with graffiti on a quick turnaround basis.

Key to the program's success is a community outreach effort which enlists the support of community and business leaders, school and law enforcement

OAG Representatives

Division 3206

Cornelius Williams
Mary White

Division 3211

Thomas Issacs
George Craver

Division 3260

Thomas Perna
Yandell Lister

Division 3207

Juan Pena
Debra Simental

Division 3212

Eliseo Villanueva
Peter Cardias

All operators are encouraged to contact their division OAG representative with any concerns or ideas he/she feel should be addressed.

Division 3208

Vester Grayson
Jorge Lopez

Division 3215

Cora Hooks
Luis Rodriguez

Division 3209

Luis Endara
Maxine Lewis

Division 3216

Tyrone Slaughter
James Murphy

Division 3210

Eloisa Diaz
Thomas Reclusado

Division 3218

John Ward
Linda Brooks



Crime Drops on Line 204

As the result of a 30-day test program that put more Transit Police officers on RTD buses, crime on Line 204 buses has dramatically decreased, according to Los Angeles County Supervisor Yvonne Braithwaite Burke.

Prior to the special campaign, Line 204 was the most vandalized bus line in the District's 200-route system. It is also one of the District's highest ridership lines.

Supervisor Burke provided the RTD \$1.4 million to add four buses during morning weekday rush hours and six during the afternoon period, as well as sufficient Transit Police officers to insure that, on average, one officer rides at least 20 min-

utes on every bus on the line.

During the first month of increased bus security on Line 204 (Vermont Avenue), RTD Transit Police

have issued over 220 citations and arrested 55 individuals.

Transit Police Chief Sharon Papa noted that since Dec. 13, 1992, RTD Transit Police have

boarded buses along Vermont Avenue more than 4,700 times. In addition, officers have made 13 felony arrests, mostly for narcotics use and sales, and have made 40 misdemeanor arrests, mostly for outstanding warrants.



Chief Papa, Supervisor Burke and RTD's Hoken

Blue Line Ridership Up

More than 11 million people boarded the Blue Line in 1992, its second full year of operation, representing a robust 16.7 percent increase over the previous year.

The Los Angeles-to-Long Beach light rail system, which has been serving passengers along the corridor since July 14, 1990, carried at least 900,000 riders for 10 of the 12 months in 1992. In August, the one million plateau was surpassed when the trains carried 1,015,350 people. The total Blue Line ridership for 1992 was 11,328,650.

"We knew that when commuters, students and shoppers learned how convenient and reliable Blue Line trains are, they would climb aboard," said RTD General Manager Alan F. Pegg.

officials, neighborhood groups, youth organizations and others.

These groups will work within a Division Advisory Committee (DAC), which will include Division 1 management and employee volunteers. Also, the RTD is expected to sign a new contract soon with the County Probation Department, which will again assign juvenile offenders to work in the District's graffiti removal program. The

project also will give the RTD an opportunity to test new graffiti-removal products and to develop graffiti-resistance materials.

An in-depth evaluation of the program, noting labor costs, time spent removing graffiti and repairing damage, cost of materials and community involvement. Data obtained will be used in the development of a long-range, system-wide program.

Division 18 Steals Quality Service Award

Division 18 captured the Quality Service Award for the month of December, announced Ken Miller, acting assistant director of maintenance.

The Carson division improved its pull-out performance by a greater percentage than did any other division. Its on-time performance rate -- 99.43 percent!



One Day Before

Reporters from all over the country set up shop in Los Angeles the last week in January. Not only was the Red Line making news, but the Super Bowl, too, was expected to draw tens of thousands. Like it has on so many occasions, the RTD was involved in the thick of that operation, coordinating three shuttle routes, one express route, and a charter special service to Pasadena.

On the day before this "Super Weekend," the District treated the press to a tour of the Red Line and used the opportunity to share with Southern Californians the message that first-class RTD bus service was, indeed, available to the Rose Bowl.

The public responded: an RTD fleet in superb shape carried over 40,500 boarding passengers.



(Top left) "We are ready!" RTD Board President Marvin Holen told the pack of reporters who toured the Red Line 24 hours before the festivities began.

(Top right) Director Jim Tolbert with RTD Recording Secretary Michelle Jackson.

(Above) Holen chats with former RTD Board President Gordana Swanson aboard the train.

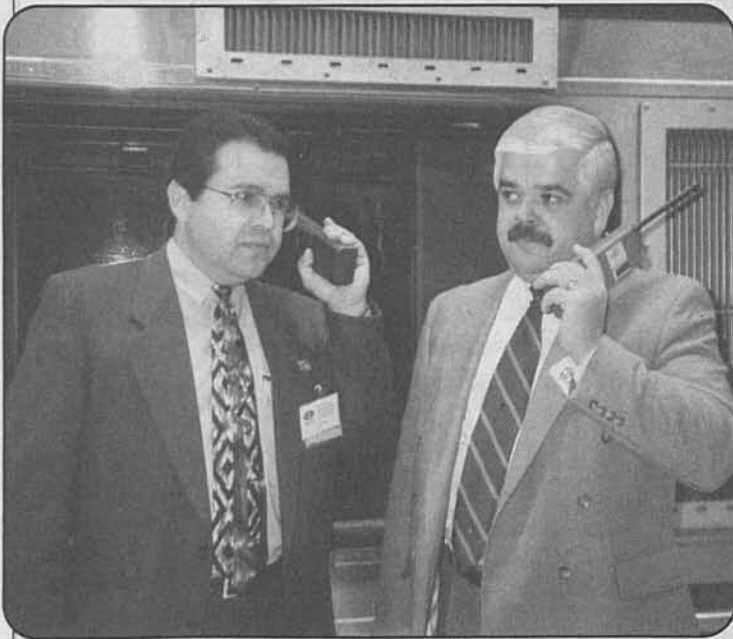
(Left) A photographer tails Assistant General Manager of Operations Art Leahy. Board Director Gordana Swanson follows.

Red Line Grand Opening

(Left) News Bureau Manager Jim Smart with former Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

(Bottom) "I want to be a walking - in this case -- a parking ad for a great (transportation) system," Mayor Bradley told the media who had gathered to record history in the making at the Pershing Square Station. Here, Richard Alatorre, chairman of the MTA, hands Bradley a "shoe," which rides on the third rail, enabling the train to get its power.





Dan Ibarra, director of transportation and Jesse Diaz, acting rail superintendent.



Sharon Papa, Transit Police chief, with Rich Morton, rail equipment maintenance superintendent.



With Alan Pegg in the foreground, the governor greets former Supervisor Kenneth Hahn aboard the inaugural train.



Governor Pete Wilson makes the first official Red Line ticket purchase.



Art Leahy, assistant general manager of operations, and John Byrd, Division 20 transportation manager.



Outside the Pershing Square Station, Lieutenant Jack Herman and Sergeant Scott Anderson discuss last minute security arrangements.

Construction on the project began by the RTD in October 1986. The system will cost about \$4 billion by the time the second and third stages are completed. By 1996, the Red Line is expected to extend to Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue, and out to North Hollywood by 2001.



Bud Moore, superintendent of rail facilities; George Matejovsky, rail facilities manager; and Wyman Jones, rail safety engineer had been waiting for this day for a long time.



**Red Line
Grand Opening**

(Top left) The mayor with Alan Pegg.

(Top right) Transit Police Lieutenant Jack Herman with Chief Sharon Papa.



(Middle) RTD Board President Marvin Holen with his wife, Marta.

(Bottom left) Director of Risk Management Barbara Anderson and CMF's Robert Kang were among RTD's spirited volunteers.

(Bottom right) RTD Board President Marvin Holen, LACTC Executive Director Neil Peterson, Mayor Tom Bradley, and RTD General Manager Alan Pegg.





Operator Vincent Owens and his wife share the night together and with their friends at the Pride at Five dinner dance.

Pride at Five Dance

Division 5 held its first annual dinner dance on Saturday, Jan. 23. About one hundred employees celebrated the "Pride at 5 Spirit," at the Main Event Sports Lounge in Culver City.

Employees, many of whom were dressed in tuxedos and evening gowns, dined on prime rib and cornish game hens. The outing was the idea of Senior Instructor James Bernard. Division 5 Manager Roy Starks, Operator Lonell Anderson, and Assistant Transportation Manager Diane Frazier organized the festivities, which included comic routines and songs performed by retired Operator Doug Madison. Employees danced on into the wee hours of the morning to tunes performed by both a live band and disc jockey.

Division 5 employees said they had a wonderful time interacting with each other away from the job, and agreed to stage another dinner dance in the near future.



TOS Verena Stewart and Mopper-Waxer Jureta Turner.



Husband and wife operator team of Catrissa and Tracy Seale.



The husband and wife operator team of Lemuel and Phyllis Smith.



Operator Lisa Burnley enjoys herself at recent Pride at Five Dance.



Mattie Starks, wife of Division Manager Roy Starks.



TOS Eduardo Uvals and Operator Rose Mendoza.

Division 5 Forms Choir

Division 5 has organized a Pride at Five Gospel Choir, which is off to a hot start. Operator Lonell Anderson, organizer and founder of the choir, says he's very excited about the work the choir does in the community. The group has performed at the Fox Hills Mall and at other locales around the city. The group recently sang at the funeral of their Division 5 colleague Verdell

Anderson says that the performances have been met with great enthusiasm by the audiences. Choir colors, he tells *Headway*, are green and gold, and members are now raising funds to purchase robes for

each choir member. There are 25 faithful members, and Anderson says they are encouraging MTA employees and family members system-wide to become part of the Pride at Five Gospel Choir. He says that they also need musicians who would like to participate with the choir.

The choir practices on Thursday evenings from 7 until 9 p.m. at Division 5, and on Saturday afternoons from 4 to 6:30 p.m. at the Christ Baptist Church on Martin Luther King Blvd.

If you're interested in joining, give Anderson a ring at 6205.



Operator Hazel Brooks.

SCHEDULE CHANGES



Alcid, Teresita B., from Secretary to Senior Secretary.

Barron, Sergio O., from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Bausley, Lujen, from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Becerra, Marie E., from Transit Police Officer (Trainee) to Transit Police Officer.

Bennett, Elizabeth T., from Systems Project Leader to Systems Project Manager.

Borg, Gary W., from Transit Police Officer (Trainee) to Transit Police Officer.

Carruitero, Gino A., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Chow, Tony C., from Mechanic "C" to Mechanic "B".

Coffey, Dana M., from Transit Operations Supervisor to Assistant Division Transp Manager.

Cormier, Lionel F., from Mechanic "A" to Mechanic "A" Leader.

Delorito, Simplicio P., from Mechanic "C" to Mechanic "B".

Espinosa, Viola V., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Falcon, James, from Schedule Maker II to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Fernandez, Francisco J., from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Fitzgerrell, Bruce C., from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Fluker, Dorothy A., from Senior Transit Operations Supervisor to Assistant Division Transportation Manager.

Fuhrman, Jay L., from Planning Assistant to Planner.

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

Golden, Grace Louise, from Senior Transit Operations Supervisor to Assistant Division Transportation Manager.

Gordillo, Edgar A., from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Guerrero, Georgina, from Typist Clerk to General Clerk.

Gutierrez, Jose L., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Harper, Joanne K., from Division Stenographer to Secretary.

Hernandez, Hector L., from Bus Operator (F/T) to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Hooks, Frank J., from Bus Operator (F/T) to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Johnson, Cleve A., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Magana, Henry F., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Malone, Rachel B., from Equipment Records Specialist to Schedule Clerk.

Mardikian, Harout, from Mechanic "B" to

Mechanic "A".

Massey, Helen M., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Mathews, John S., from Mechanic "C" to Mechanic "B".

Maynez, Irma, from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Melendez, Lorraine M., from Senior Staff Assistant to General Services Supervisor.

Moran, Gurkirpal S., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Mouakkad, Honein, from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Newton, Gayla E., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Nguyen, Si T., from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Olivarez, Gloria A., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Orozco, Julio R., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Pedraza-Cazares, Melissa, from Typist Clerk to Clerk.

Pineda, Rodolfo, from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Pippins, Esther M., from Schedule Checker to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Provencio, Richard R., from General Services Supervisor to Support Services Supervisor.

Quintanilla, Omar, from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Ramirez, Ricardo G., from Schedule Checker to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Rice, John W., from Transit Police Officer (Trainee) to Transit Police Officer.

Rivera, Sergio, from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Robinson, Bryant, from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Salazar, Juan A., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Sandoval, Tony C., from Transit Operations Supervisor to Assistant Division Transportation Manager.

Seyler, Paul C., from Bus Operator (P/T) to

Bus Operator (F/T).

Spata, John M., from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Tadena, Manuel B., from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Trulock, Todd N., from Transit Police Officer (Trainee) to Transit Police Officer.

Valles, Blas J., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

SHIFTING GEAR



Baria, Warren L., began with the District on September 22, 1972 and retired as a Mechanic "A" on September 23, 1992.

Brodsky, Allen P., began with the District on September 23, 1970 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on December 23, 1992.

Brown, Walter, began with the District on June 09, 1967 and retired as a Property Maintainer A on January 05, 1993.

Cain, Nathaniel, began with the District on August 29, 1960 and retired as a Transit Operations Supervisor on

Vandeventer, Gale E., from Rail Operations Superintendent to Assistant Director of Transportation.

Vejar, Scott L., from Bus Operator (P/T) to Bus Operator (F/T).

Walters, Charles V., from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

Wilkinson, Paul J., from Senior Programmer Analyst to Systems Project Leader.

January 18, 1993.

Chakmakian, George, began with the District on January 03, 1970 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 09, 1993.

Deal, Dick E., began with the District on April 15, 1960 and retired as a Mechanic "A" Leader on January 16, 1993.

Ellison, Clifford, began with the District on December 20, 1969 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 05, 1993.

Fields, James E., began with the District on December 07, 1968 and



**AMERICAN
HEART
MONTH**



retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on December 09, 1992.

Garcia, Vincent A., began with the District on July 22, 1974 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 22, 1993.

Hairston, Bobby, began with the District on November 17, 1969 and retired as a Utility "A" Leader on December 18, 1993.

Harrison, W. E., began with the District on October 25, 1969 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 04, 1993.

Continued on page 18

Shifting Gears

Continued from page 17

Heffler, William L., began with the District on July 29, 1974 and retired as a Facilities Maintenance Manager on January 02, 1993.

Henderson, Estela, began with the District on October 19, 1978 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on October 14, 1992.

Hirth, John R., began with the District on September 25, 1975 and retired as a Mechanic "A" on January 09, 1993.

Jackson, Sylvia A., began with the District on November 12, 1962 and retired as a Mail & Duplicating Clerk on January 18, 1993.

Jackson, William, began with the District on December 13, 1969 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 18, 1993.

Khan, Larry, began with the District on August 09, 1982 and retired as a Mechanic "A" on January 03, 1993.

La Curan, James R., began with the District on January 12, 1986 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on December 01, 1992.

Manahan, Mamerto G., began with the District on May 12, 1986 and retired as a Security Guard II on December 07, 1992.

McReynolds, Samuel, began with the District on November 01, 1969 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 04, 1993.

Morales, Frank J., began with the District on August 13, 1969 and retired as a Property Maintainer "A" Leader on December 19, 1992.

Morris, Benjamin J., began with the District on December 26, 1974 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 02, 1993.

Nilo, Jorge H., began with the District on January 12, 1976 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 19, 1993.

Nordstrom, Robert R., began with the District on September 29, 1972 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 04, 1993.

Palacios, Antonio, began with the District on September 06, 1969 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 17, 1993.

Ramos, Manuel V., began with the District

on April 19, 1982 and retired as a Welder (CMF) on January 16, 1993.

Rand, R. H., began with the District on December 04, 1965 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on December 31, 1992.

Rodriguez, Art L., began with the District on October 13, 1972 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 18, 1993.

Rubin, Joseph P., began with the District on April 22, 1968 and retired as a Mechanic "A" on January 16, 1993.

Sailor, Charles J., began with the District on November 02, 1968 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 18, 1993.

San Juan, Carlos O., began with the District on December 06, 1969 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 05, 1993.

Sprein, Joseph, began with the District on August 16, 1981 and retired as a Locksmith on December 15, 1992.

Stelly, William F., began with the District on June 28, 1969 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on January 11, 1993.

Suarez, Manuel T., began with the District on April 26, 1974 and retired as a Property Maintainer B. on January 02, 1993.

Wheeler, Gerald E., began with the District on December 12, 1974 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on June 22, 1992.

Woodard, Luevinia, began with the District on March 22, 1976 and retired as a Bus Operator Full Time on September 20, 1992.

Who are the Oldest Living Retirees?

In case you were wondering who the oldest living RTD (or its predecessor) retiree is, we combed through our files and came up with the name of William Mills of Torrance, who will be 99 years old. He started in 1921 as a Pacific Electric conductor out of Division 2 and retired in 1952.

Close behind him is John Hunsaker, age 96, who lives in San Jacinto. He began his career as a conductor with Pacific Electric in 1920.

William Reynolds, age 94, of Escondido, is the third oldest. Reynolds finished his career as MTA's director of purchasing and stores.

In Memoriam

Barnett, Edwin W., began with the District on April 30, 1937, retired as a Bus Operator and passed away on October 21, 1992.

Boyer, Joseph C., began with the District on January 08, 1957, retired as a Bus Operator and passed away on December 21, 1992.

Clements, William C., began with the District on March 20, 1942, retired as a Railroadman and passed away on October 12, 1992.

Gardner, Harold G., began with the District on October 03, 1983, retired as a Bus Operator Part Time and passed away on December 16, 1992.

Gould, Delmar G., began with the District on October 21, 1953, retired as a Bus Operator Full Time and passed away on November 26, 1992.

Griggs, Floyd A., began with the District on July 17, 1946, retired as a Bus Operator and passed away on December 26, 1992.

Homrighausen, Leroy G., began with the District on December 06, 1945, retired as a Assistant Division Manager and passed away on December 05, 1992.

Lewis, Melvyn D., began with the District on March 27, 1975, retired as a Bus Operator Full Time and passed away on December 07, 1992.

Looney, Benjamin F., began

with the District on July 15, 1957, retired as a Bus Operator and passed away on December 22, 1992.

Lowell, James R., began with the District on April 05, 1929, retired as a Bus Operator and passed away on December 02, 1992.

Powell, George H., began with the District on August 01, 1945, retired as a Superintendent and passed away on December 02, 1992.

Ridge, Jackson, began with the District on September 04, 1956, retired as a Bus Operator Full Time and passed away on November 27, 1992.

Ritch, Horace R., began with the District on October 30, 1965, retired as a Schedule Checker and passed away on December 29, 1992.

White, James K., began with the District on September 04, 1957, retired as a Transit Operations Supervisor and passed away on November 25, 1993.

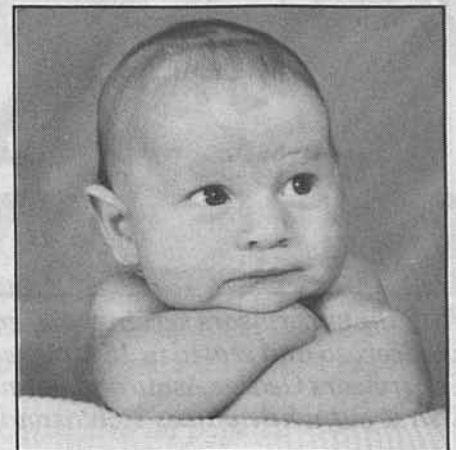
(Right) Born to Diane Ullrich, a typist clerk in the Human Resources Department and to her husband, David, a customer information supervisor, a son, Robert David, on August 20, 1990 at Verdugo Hills Hospital in Glendale. The little guy weighed a healthy 10 lbs, 4 oz. and was 21 inches long. Our congratulations!

BIRTHS



(Above) Born to Lorraine Hernandez, a typist clerk in the Human Resources Department, and to her husband Paul, a daughter, Tyler Amanda, at 5:57 a.m. on August 21, 1992 at Kaiser Hospital. The little one weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz., and was 20 inches long. Tyler joins her big sister Vanessa at the Hernandez home in Monterey Park. Writes her proud mom, Lorraine,

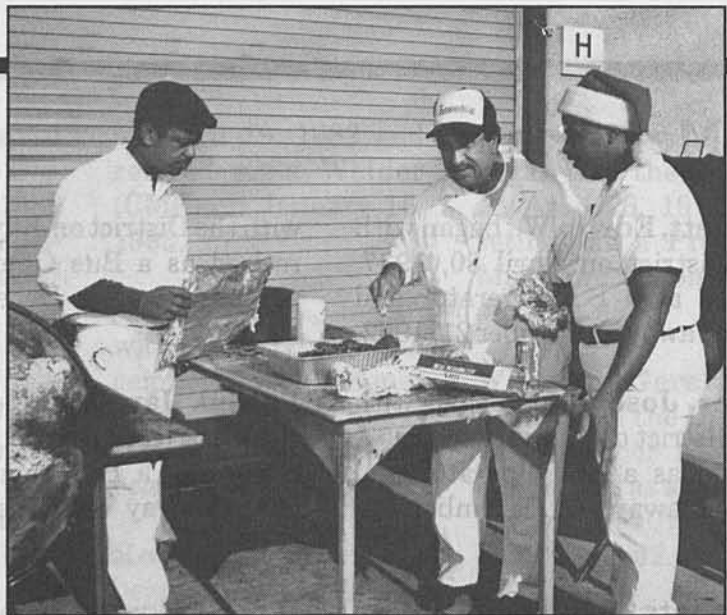
*"Take my hand, my baby.
We welcome you to our world.
God has given you life.
Our beautiful baby girl."*



Party Time at CMF

The CMF Paint Shop splashed with holiday spirit on December 24. Shop Steward Gabriel Martinez organized the party, which included a menu fare of barbecue ribs, beans, carne asada, corn-on-the-cob, chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, and dessert.

Thanks to the RTD and ATU, the group was able to put on the entire celebration without collecting funds from employees.



Hard-working cooks include (from left) Desmond Williams, Edmund Loya, and James Robinson.



Donald Chui receives one of the gifts from Shop Steward Gabriel Martinez. Among the presents were barbecues, a case of Farmer John hams, and merchandise donated by Mac Tool Man and Snap-On Tool Man.



With the supervisors serving, 400 employees were served and seated in 15 minutes. Above, Supervisors George Asato and John Rivenes dish it out while James Robinson looks on.



The celebrators included, from left, Shop Steward Frank Bosco, Gary Markarian, Chuck Powell, Mike Silva, Ted Brown, Mike Ballew, and brothers Rick and Geraldo Silva.



PUBLIC COMMENDATIONS

Thanks for a Job Well Done!

Division 3202

Lindley J. Amparano
Lencall R. Washington

Division 3203

Andre C. Perez
Salvador Rojas
William Stelly

Division 3205

Vincent Owens

Division 3207

Hardie Gillie
Tonita Harrell
Francisco Sandoval

Division 3208

Edmond L. White
William Robinson
Javier G. Robles

Division 3209

Raymond Hawkins

Division 3210

Allen Dade
Juan Vasquez

Division 3212

Warren Koons
George Stafford

Division 3215

Arlene Alvidrez
Virginia Middleton
Herbert Moore
George Nelson

Division 3216

James W. Murphy

Division 3218

Charles Conner
Robert Cooks
Samuel O. Daughtrey
Odessa Lewis

Customer Service Representatives:

Melba Jane Sarris

Dear RTD:

I want to commend bus driver **Javier Robles** for his thoughtfulness and consideration. On December 7, I discovered that I had lost my bus pass at Farmer's Market. I had boarded the 3rd St. bus at Alden, and had no idea where the pass had subsequently disappeared.

That evening, Mr. Robles called my home -- my card with the address and telephone number had been in the folder. He had found the pass in the seat where I had sat and agreed to mail the pass back to me, which he did.

I certainly appreciated the accommodation, which eased the stress of the season. I also thought his boss would appreciate knowing of his kindness.

Yours truly,
Blanche Morsch
West Hollywood

Dear RTD:

Today I had such a wonderful blessing. Being the first day of the New Year, I was anxious that my day would be a special one.

Yes, I had gotten what I had been looking for.

At 12:10 p.m. while walking, or should I say running, to the Western and Beverly Boulevard intersection, I noticed that my

bus was coming. Would I be able to get to this bus? As I was struggling to get to the bus stop, the bus driver went out of his way to wait for me. And then instead of being mad and upset, I was greeted politely with, "Happy New Year"

I was so impressed that I knew that I had to write to tell the bus company that driver **Francisco Sandoval** is a very special person and needs to be praised and thanked for his goodness and kindness. How wonderful it would be if all the drivers were as good and kind as he.

Please thank him. I feel safe and happy to ride on his bus.

Thank you again for such wonderful service.

Sincerely,
Maria Kine
Los Angeles

Dear RTD:

This note is in regard to operator **George Stafford**. Recently I was a passenger on his bus and felt compelled to thank him for his intelligence and courtesy.

This man is so outstanding, he should be training all of your employees. You are most fortunate to have him in your employ. Please thank him for making my, and others', day much brighter.

Sincerely,
Margaret Minter
Long Beach

Dear RTD:

I would like to commend one of your operators, **Edmond White**. He's a driver on the 420 line. I've been an RTD rider for over 25 years and have experi-

Continued on page 22 . . .

Public Commendations

continued from page 21 . . .

enced many indifferent and routine drivers.

This driver was far and above the average. His professionalism and kind manner were outstanding. He drove very carefully and made a point of announcing all major stops and connecting points to other bus lines. I felt as if I were being chauffeured to my destination.

Such service, I feel, should not go unnoticed and I would recommend him for any award you can bestow in his favor.

Sincerely,
Rocco DiGiovanni
North Hollywood

Dear RTD:

I am extremely busy, working more than eight hours a day and "shopping 'till I drop," like most other people this season, but I must take the time to compliment you on having the good sense to hire **Raymond Hawkins** as one of your drivers.

Ray has driven the 470 Brea Mall bus that I take to work most mornings, and it is a pleasure to ride with him. Not only does he give his passengers a smooth ride, but he has a friendly word for every passenger who enters or exits his bus. He will be missed when he starts his new assignment.

Congratulations on having Ray as an employee!

Sincerely,
Ann Moreland
La Habra

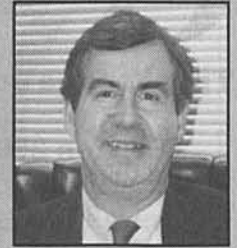
Steve Parry Selected to Expert Panel

Steve Parry, RTD's director of scheduling and operations planning, has been selected by the Transportation Research Board (TRB) to provide overall counsel and technical guidance for bus route

Steve Parry Selected to Expert Panel

Parry, who is in his 20th year at the RTD, is vice-chairman of the American Public Transportation's Multi-Modal Operations Planning Committee. He has spoken at myriad industry workshops on bus service and scheduling.

The panel on which he will sit will be administered by the Transit Cooperative Research Program, in cooperation with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and APTA.



Steve Parry

Op. Advisory Group

... continued from page 7

RTD, Transit Police officers were sent down to Division 9 to learn how to operate the coach. "We did it for four days and I was deadly afraid to operate the machinery," he said, respectfully.

"The biggest problem is that people think of us as nothing."

"My number one concern is your safety," he went on. "I enjoy being a part of you. You teach me a lot of things."

Operator Peter Cardias was not satisfied. "In Vietnam," he said, "you talk to talk and walk to walk. I don't see any one walking. It's we who have to deal with the slime on the streets."

But Division 1 Operator Richard Rodriguez was impressed by their force's new attitude.

"I'm going to take up their offer to operators that we join them in the patrol cars for a ride-along," he said. "And, likewise, I think they should spend a day with us on the bus."

Rodriguez, like many of his colleagues, told *Headway* the biggest problem on the streets is not the officers but that "people think of us as nothing. They don't give a damn about us," he emphasized.

He said he knows that the establishment of an Operator Advisory Forum means that Ibarra and Papa will tackle the problem head-on.

"I tell my officers time and time again to wave at the operators when they pass them on the streets," Papa said to the operators. "We're hiring new officers all the time and I hope, by doing that, I'm changing the mindset."

Near the end of the session, Division 2 Operator Florence Henry stood. "The officers who do wave to us make us feel good," she said.



General Manager

... continued from page 3

service.

And now, as employees of the new MTA, we all should welcome our new chairman, Councilman Richard Alatorre, and vice-chairman, Supervisor Ed Edelman.

These two, along with Mayor Tom Bradley, Supervisor Michael Antonovich, RTD director Evan Anderson Braude and other MTA Board members are well-known to most of us. Joining them on the MTA are supervisors Yvonne Braithwaite Burke, Deane Dana and Gloria Molina, Los Angeles city council members Marvin Braude and Mark Ridley-Thomas, and the City Selection Committee members James Cragin, John Fasana and Larry Zarian.

As one of its first actions, the Board selected Mr. White, commissioner of the New York De-

partment of Transportation, as our new CEO, following a nationwide search. His extensive background in transportation and public policy is discussed elsewhere in this edition of *Headway*.

Also at its first meeting, the MTA Board delegated authority back to the RTD and LACTC. This will keep us in operation under our current organization until April 1, when the MTA Board and the new CEO are expected to assume full responsibility for all activities.

At that time, I expect all employees to show to the new MTA Board and to CEO White the same loyalty and devotion to public service that you have shown to me and to the RTD Board of Directors over the years.

You have my personal gratitude and my utmost respect as the finest transportation professionals in the nation.

Red Line Grand Opening



(Top) Transit Police officers who patrol the Red Line include: (top) Lt. Jack Herman; (middle) Officer Tony Rodriguez and Senior Officer Scott Pawlicki; (bottom) Officers Richard Lewis, Mike Singleton, and Richard Mena.

(Bottom) General Manager Alan Pegg gives an interview about Red Line service to KCAL-TV.



Los Angeles City Councilman John Ferraro, president of the Council, with plaque declaring January 30 Super Saturday.



Earl Clark, general chairman of the United Transportation Union (UTU), toasted former trolley car operators on opening day.



Youngsters played a key role in the opening ceremony. In fact, perhaps the best speech of the day was given by the little girl in the black and white checkered dress.



Promotion Manager Harry Goldsborough bags souvenirs commemorating the Red Line. With him, in the background, are marketing representatives David Wilson and Liz MacGowan.



Surrounded by dignitaries, Governor Wilson shows off the license plate he presented to Mayor Bradley. To Wilson's left is Supervisor Yvonne Braithwaite Burke. The child in the foreground is Jason Braude, RTD Board Director Evan Anderson Braude's son.



Tony Greno, news bureau representative, and Rick Jager, senior communications representative, provided the press with details about the train's operation.

Red Line Grand Opening



(Bottom) RTD's rail safety mascot, Travis the Owl, gives RTD Production Coordinator Alice Dickerson a squeeze. The Marketing Department organized celebrations at the Red Line stations during the first week of operation.

White is New CEO

... continued from page 4

ate director for the justice and domestic policy staff in the Carter White House.

"This is a very exciting opportunity," White told the MTA Board following his selection. "I am honored that the MTA Board has expressed its confidence in me. In return, I pledge to give Los Angeles County my best effort in bringing to it the highest quality public transportation. A city this great deserves nothing less."

Commenting on White's selection, Mayor Tom Bradley said, "We considered him the most impressive candidate, with a breadth of experience that will enable him to lead us into a new era of transportation."

"We are eager to put Mr. White to work toward implementing the new MTA policy agenda," said Alatorre. "Foremost on our minds is an efficient organization that gets the job done."

"Mr. White is a consensus builder with a reputation as an excellent administrator," said Supervisor Ed Edelman, newly elected vice-chairman of the MTA Board and chairman of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. "We believe he will be able to bring a balanced view to transit and transportation needs, both for today and for the future."

White currently serves as chairman of a review board that approves the existing billion capital program for the MTA in New York. He is vice chairman of a committee that is developing New York's plan for the implementation of the Clean Air Act of 1990.

He is past president of the Northeast American Association

of State Highway and Transportation Officials. As a member of the Association of State Highway and Transport Officials, he is chairman of a committee on intermodal issues and domestic freight policy.

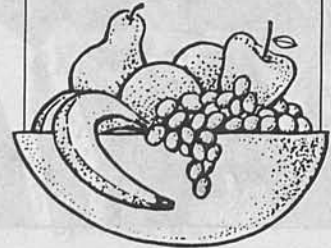
The Merger Steering Committee, a joint RTD and LACTC panel, conducted a nationwide executive search for the CEO. The Los Angeles firms of R. Rollo Associates and Norman Roberts & Associates, Inc., conducted the search.

A 1961 business administration graduate of City College of New York, White earned a law degree in 1965 from Columbia University Law School. He graduated with honors from both institutions. He lives with his wife, Diane, in Ballston Lake, N.Y. The Whites have three son, Franklin Jr., 27; William, 25; and Andrew, 17.

**"He who
leaves no
trace has
no past."**

—Chinese proverb

**NATIONAL
NUTRITION
MONTH**



Newly-elected MTA Chairman Richard Alatorre, Mayor Tom Bradley, and Los Angeles City Councilman Marvin Braude were among the 13 sworn in at the first meeting of the Board. MTA Board Secretary Helen Bolen does the honors.

ance and consulting company in Southern California. He specialized in bond and fiscal losses and he says that some of the companies that he represented, in turn, represented cities. He handled, among others, police brutality cases. Hence, his introduction to city politics.

Cragin, a member of the Gardena City Council since 1982, has high regard for his community.

"We're the best run of all the cities," he says, proudly. "We've still got our head above water despite hits by the state. We have run our own bus system at budget for 30 years. We are the only city which has its own insurance company and the only one which has a first-time homebuyers program."

That program, which Cragin helped engineer and may eventually serve as a model for others around the country, now sponsors 80 young families.

He, like his City Selection colleagues on the MTA Board, emphasize that they are not representing just their cities. "We're not carrying one agenda," he says. "We represent not one, but four municipal bus fleets."

Cragin thought the first meeting of the MTA Board was interesting. "I could see all the political inuendoes," he laughs.

"He's a good man," he says of new CEO head Franklin White. "I knew that right away," he told *Headway*, kiddingly "because we both were wearing the same tie when we interviewed him."

Seriously, though, Cragin, who was past chairman of the LACTC Citizen's Advisory Committee wants to stress his commitment to the bus system.

"It's absolutely assinine to let

the bus fleet go to hell while we build sexy railroads," he says, emphatically. "Up until now there's been a motorman at each end of the train."

Editor's note: For years, in the Pacific Electric monthly magazine (the predecessor to Headway, there appeared a column called Walter Watchall. It was a gossip column, of sorts, and featured the latest doings of employees.

Well, all those years passed and Cragin never once got his name into the column. He couldn't understand why. Then, years later, his father, who was the head of the company's purchasing department, confessed. He was the column's author.

□

Mayor Pro-tem Larry Zarian has been a retailer for more than 20 years. He has been a member of the Glendale City Council since 1983 and has twice served as the city's mayor.

In the interview with *Headway*, Zarian said he was one of the few people who realized early on that unless action was taken, the City of Glendale was going to be excluded from public transportation plans.

"I have fought to get Glendale recognized," he said. "I made sure that we bought an Amtrak train station in the city which will make us a transportation center and serve as a connection to the San Fernando Valley."

He is particularly proud of the local shuttle that rolls through Glendale, called the "Bee Line."

"It's a new baby," he said, of the bus line he pushed for, "and

we're already carrying 1.2 million people a year and we're expanding."

Zarian says he rides it frequently. "What a wonderful way to meet people," he says. "I feel as an elected official, I need to get involved continually in the for-



Larry Zarian

mation of transportation policy."

He was an outspoken member at the first MTA Board meeting. "I wanted to make sure that all 88 cities in Los Angeles County are represented," he said. "We have not been in the past. Only if we are part of the discussion will the 30-year plan work"

In fact, supported by the other City Selection Committee representatives, Zarian was nominated as vice-chairman of the board, losing in the balloting to County Supervisor Ed Edelman.

He told *Headway* he felt good about the first meeting. "Much was accomplished," he said. "I thought it went smoothly. Now we need to stand behind Mr. White."

"Each member on the MTA Board is pivotal," he insisted. "No legislation is worth a darn unless you have seven votes."

Continued on page 28 . . .

New MTA Members

continued from page 27 . . .

Zarian says the only way to get people out of gridlock is to get them out of their cars. He likens the public's perception of riding the bus to seeing someone on the streets with dirty clothes. "We don't want to get near it," he says, earnestly. "Until we run buses that are clean, we are not going to succeed. If the bus is clean and service good, people will become addicted."

Where is the money to clean the buses going to come from?

"Through a healthy subsidy," he suggests, "and then the public will pay the fares."

Zarian hosts a weekly call-in talk show called "Government in Action" on KIEV radio in Glendale. He says the signal of the station goes from San Diego to Santa Barbara. His show can be heard every Saturday afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

In addition to his mayoral duties, Zarian sits on the State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board, and is one of the founding members of the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation. He also was appointed by President Reagan to sit on the National Highway Safety Board.

He has three sons.

□

"I'm looking forward to great things from Mr. White," Duarte Councilman John Fasana told *Headway* in an interview. "I thought our first get-together as a group was really

interesting."

Since moving to the city in 1985, Fasana has immersed himself in transportation issues, serving on the League of California Cities Transportation Commit-



John Fasana

tee and the SCAG Transportation and Communications Committee. He also is chairman of the San Gabriel Valley Transportation Coalition and is Duarte's representative to the Foothill Transit Zone.

He says that he has been long frustrated at the growing level of congestion. "I think we need to make the best case possible to

obtain more funding," he says. "The federal government has to do its part."

Fasana says that he thinks the cities will be represented on the new MTA Board. "We've come a long way and I want to emphasize that we recognize the need to represent all 88 cities in the county, not just our own constituencies."

He says that the people he's talked with are not yet fully aware of the new MTA. But because of some articles in the newspaper, "the knowledge is changing," he said.

Fasana says he wants to become more familiar with what has happened to the RTD through the years.

"Foothill Transit is here to stay," he says. "And we must increase our understanding of other operating agencies. We must look at those existing practices and contractual agreements. Let's look at Foothill Transit. If we see something we like, let's copy it."

Fasana has three children.



American Diabetes Alert

PUT YOUR HEALTH TO THE TEST
American Diabetes Association

This test will help you understand the symptoms and risk factors associated with diabetes. It cannot determine if you will or will not develop diabetes. Only a medical doctor can determine if you have diabetes.

Circle the points next to statements which are true for you and add up your total score.

1. I have been experiencing these symptoms on a regular basis (These are the common symptoms of diabetes):
 - excessive thirst 30
 - frequent urination 30
 - extreme fatigue 10
 - unexplained weight loss 30
 - blurry vision from time to time 20
2. I am over 40 years old (diabetes risk increases with age) 10
3. My weight is equal to or over that listed in chart below (Weight plays significant role in diabetes development) 20
4. I am a woman who has had more than one baby weighing over 9 lbs. at birth (This could be a sign of diabetes during pregnancy) 20
5. I am of Native American, Hispanic or Black descent (Minorities have a very high rate of diabetes) 10
6. I have a parent with diabetes (Diabetes often runs in families) 10
7. I have a brother or sister with diabetes 20

TOTAL SCORE

WEIGHT CHART

For women		For Men	
Ht.	Wt.	Ht.	Wt.
4' 9"	120	5' 2"	142
4' 10"	123	5' 3"	147
4' 11"	127	5' 4"	151
5' 0"	131	5' 5"	154
5' 1"	134	5' 6"	160
5' 2"	139	5' 7"	165
5' 3"	142	5' 8"	170
5' 4"	145	5' 9"	175
5' 5"	153	5' 10"	181
5' 6"	158	5' 11"	186
5' 7"	163	6' 0"	191
5' 8"	167	6' 1"	197
5' 9"	172	6' 2"	203
5' 10"	177	6' 3"	209

(These weights are 20% heavier than ideal weights)

How to Evaluate Your Score

Scoring 30-50 points: You probably are at low risk for diabetes. But don't just forget about it — especially if you are over 40, overweight, or of Native American, Black, or Hispanic descent. Be sure you know the symptoms of diabetes. If you experience any of them, contact your doctor for further testing.

Scoring over 50 points: You may be at high risk for diabetes. You may even already have diabetes. SEE YOUR DOCTOR PROMPTLY to find out if

you have diabetes. Even if you don't, know the symptoms. If you experience any of them in the future, see your doctor immediately.

For further information, call the American Diabetes Association (213) 381-3639

Kaaiser Permanente's Wellness Care-A-Van will be at the Central Maintenance Facility on Friday, March 26 from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. to provide free diabetes screening. This is a five to ten minute appointment and is limited to the first 90 participants. There also will be representatives from the American Diabetes Association available for consultation.

As you are well aware, there are so many devastating diseases afflicting Americans that diabetes is often overlooked as a treatable problem that is not deserving of much attention. Yet, the plain facts about diabetes are alarming. Diabetes kills more than 150,000 people in the United States annually. That is more than 410 people a day! Diabetes also results in serious complications such as heart attacks, kidney disease, blindness, nerve damage, strokes, and amputations. Even more distressing is half of the 14 million people with diabetes in this country are not aware that they have the disease.

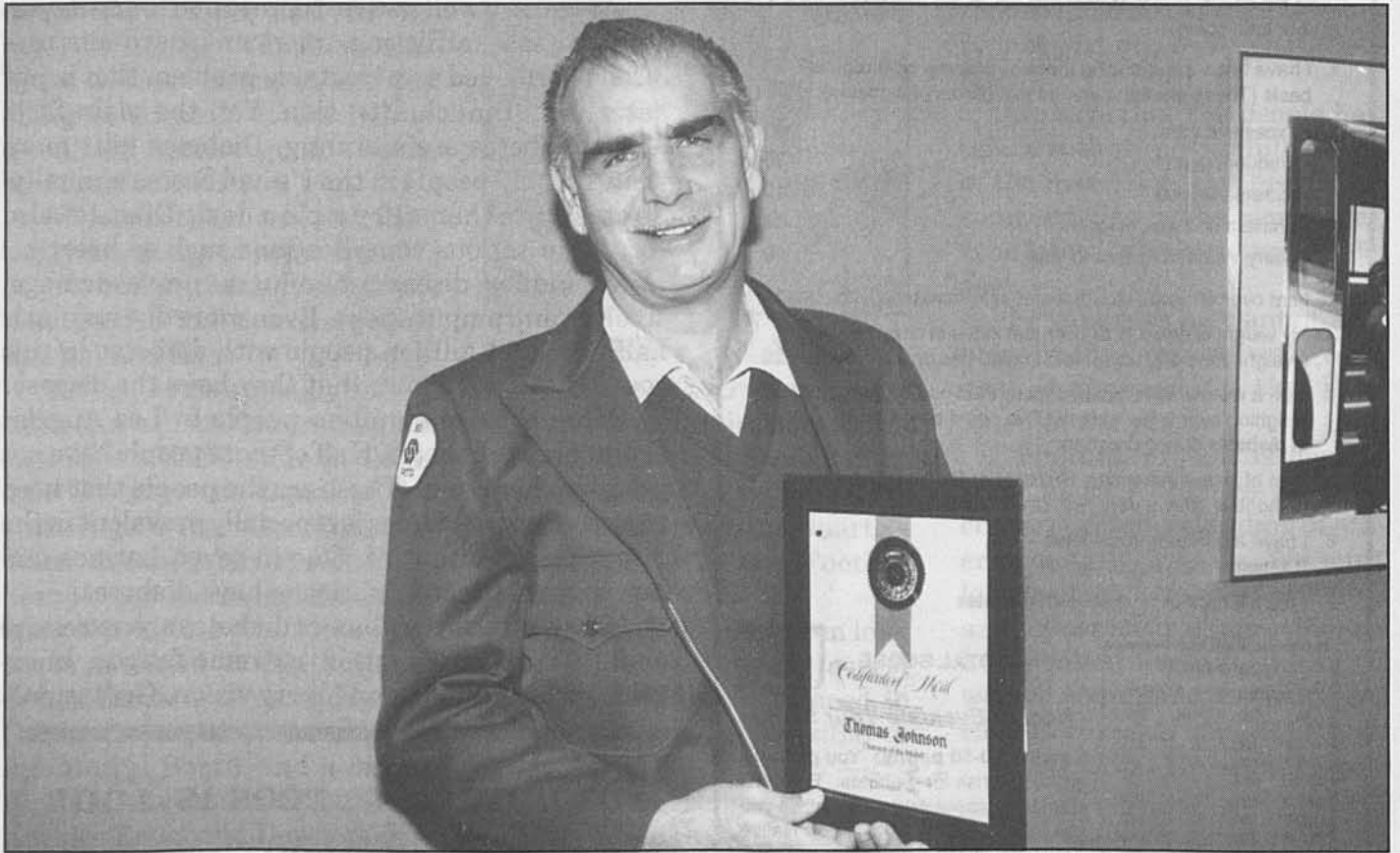
More than one million people in Los Angeles County have diabetes. Half of these people have not yet been diagnosed. These are the people that need to be reached. Diabetes is especially prevalent in the minority communities. One in seven Latinos and one in ten African-Americans have diabetes.

Some of the symptoms of diabetes are: excessive thirst, frequent urination, extreme fatigue, unexplained weight loss, and blurry vision. Get tested!

Human Resources is Your Health Resource

Does your group, department, or division have a special health interest or concern? Would you like more information about a particular aspect of health, wellness, or illness, or healthy habits, or life style areas of interest, such as nutrition? Whatever your concerns, Human Resources, home of the Medical Desk and the Wellness desk, will try to meet your needs and interests. If you want a community or medical resource to come to your location and put on a particular program, just call extension 7164 and leave a message on the voice mail, with either a return telephone number, or an address and work location. If you wish information mailed to your work location about a particular concern or interest, drop a note in the mail to Luanna Urie or Mary Conforti, in care of Human Resources.

COMMENDATIONS



Thomas Johnson, a Westminster resident who drives a bus at night between San Pedro and Union Station in Los Angeles, has been named RTD Operator of the Month for November, 1992. Johnson works out of Division 12 in Long Beach. He drives the 446 line, which connects Union Station in Los Angeles with Carson, Wilmington and San Pedro via Pacific Avenue.

A 16 1/2 year-RTD veteran with the RTD, Johnson has 90 merits on his record, the maximum an operator can receive. He has maintained an exemplary accident record, and has received numerous commendations from the riding public as well as his superiors. Johnson has had no rule violations, absences or avoidable accidents for the past two years. Says Johnson, "A bus driver sees America first-hand, hands-on." In his spare time, Johnson walks five miles daily, plays golf on courses around Southern California, and flies small aircraft. At one time, he owned a Beechcraft Bonanza.

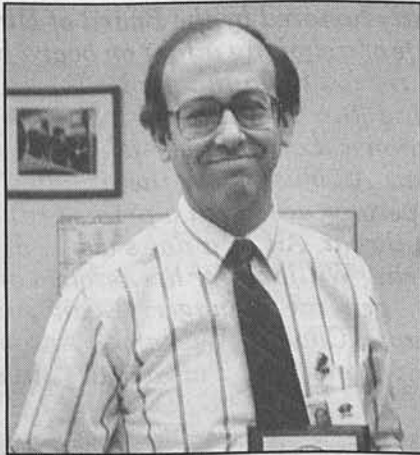


Alan Pegg, general manager



Suzanne Gifford, general counsel

Perfect Attendance Starts at the Top



Tom Rubin, controller-treasurer



"Who, me?" asks Sharon Papa of the other Executive Staff members.

Four members of the District's Executive Staff -- Alan Pegg, general manager; Suzanne Gifford, general counsel; Tom Rubin, controller-treasurer; and Sharon Papa, Transit Police chief -- scored perfect attendance during the last calendar year. During a recent meeting of the top brass, Gayel Pitchford, director of human resources, recently presented them with their award plaques.

Our last *Headway* featured the names of those racking up perfect attendance. We've received calls from some of you who were concerned that your name had been left out. Keep in mind that "time offs with permission," while okay with your supervisor, eliminate you from the perfect attendance program.



The late **Thomas G. Neusom**, who served as president of RTD's Board of Directors from 1980-82, was honored recently with a memorial plaque that was installed on one of the first two Metro Red Line subway cars. Neusom was remembered as one who served on RTD's Board during the formative years of the Red Line project, and was instrumental in securing a subway for Los Angeles County. On hand for the dedication ceremony were Neusom's widow, **Lucretia**, left; Board President **Marvin Holen**; and the Neusoms' daughters **Karla** (second from right) and **Evelyn**.



RTD Division 7 Bus Operator **Charlie Williams** was recently honored by the Board of Directors for saving the life of a choking infant on board his bus. Williams, who retired in January after 33 years of service, was driving the 2 line down Sunset Boulevard into downtown Los Angeles when he heard a woman scream. After assessing the situation in a split second, the operator unlodged a piece of candy from the little girl's throat. All in a day's work, declared Williams. Cheering Williams for his heroism are, from left, **Alan Pegg**, general manager; **Evan Anderson Braude**, director; **Charlie Williams**, **Antonio Villaraigosa**, director; and **Nick Patsouras**, director.

Richard Gallagher, who was RTD's chief rail engineer during the early design phase of the Red Line, was honored recently with a plaque comemorating his achievements. The Bel Air resident was presented with a framed duplicate of the plaque that was installed in one of the first two Red Line subway cars. RTD Board President **Marvin Holen** is in the foreground.





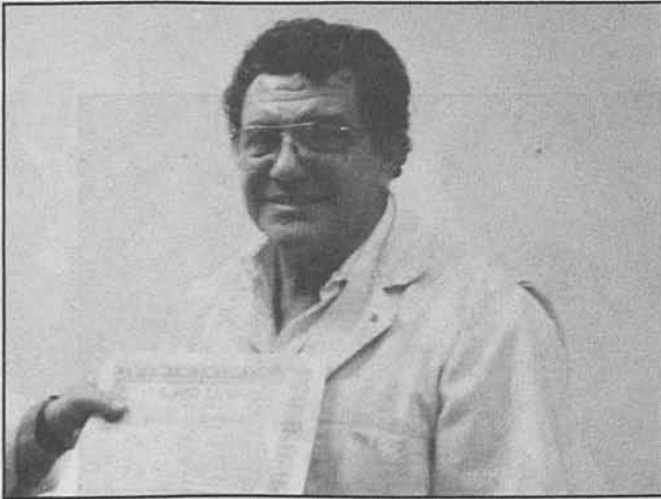
Andrea Smith, an outstanding employee, has been selected Information Operator of the Month for December 1992. This is the third time she has received the honor, and on one of those occasions, was named Operator of the Year. Smith loves to read, visit art museums, and attend plays in her spare time. She joined the District in April 1983.



Schedule Planner Mike Brewer and Senior Planner Callier Beard from the Scheduling and Operations Planning Department received a hearty thanks from the RTD Board of Directors last month. The two, who helped facilitate the boarding of Metrolink passengers to RTD buses during the debut of train service, were praised for helping an elderly woman from West Covina find her way back home after she became separated from her husband at the Metrolink Station parking lot in Pomona (see Headway, November 1992.) The woman boarded the train while her husband, who carried the couple's traveling money, circled the parking lot, searching for a parking space. He missed the train. The two RTD managers not only gave the frightened woman bus fare for the return ride back, but also drove her to the bus stop and put her on the proper bus. Saluting Brewer and Beard are, from left, Board Director Evan Anderson Braude, Mike Brewer, General Manager Alan Pegg, Callier Beard and Board Director James Tolbert.



*Kudos to **Augusto Carrillo**, who was tapped CMF Employee of the Month. The equipment maintenance supervisor is responsible for the scheduling of the Paint, Trim, Window and Midlife programs. His efforts have always been positive with maximum production and low costs as his goals. I didn't think I'd stay here this long," the 12-year Burbank resident says, chuckling. "But I've become an RTD -- no, now an MTA -- believer!"*



***Rodolfo Rojas** garnered CMF Employee of the Month honors recently for compiling an outstanding record of achievements. He is assigned to CMF's Electrical Unit Department where he overhauls bus components, such as battery chargers, voltage and temperature regulators, pneumatic and electrical motors and charging alternators. His boss, John Rivenes, with whom he is pictured, says his technical knowledge and thoroughness have been demonstrated time and time again. He was once assigned to troubleshoot a portable starter tester which had a history of intermittent short to ground problems. In the nick of time, Rojas found that the short was caused by a defective insulating washer on a terminal of a power relay. Recently, Rojas was assigned to build the RTS/TMC wheelchair lift test box, where his technical knowledge again proved priceless. He built and tested four out of 11 of the test boxes and their 20-foot long paired test cables. His work resulted in an error-free product. He is always ready to help others!*



***Virgilio Garion**, a mechanic A in the Sheet Metal Shop, was recently named CMF Employee of the Month. His boss, John Rivenes, says he takes pride in fabricating his assignment from a drawing to the finished product. Garion, a Burbank resident, is self-motivated and gets along well with his peers and management. He is cooperative and shares his knowledge with his fellow employees. "I love it here," the 12-year RTD veteran says.*



Congratulations to Vazgen Vartanian who was selected Employee of the Quarter in the MIS Department. The Glendale resident earned kudos for his outstanding performance supporting the Human Resources Department during the execution of the Pay-for-Performance system this year. In addition, he has consistently exceeded the requirements of his position to ensure the timely and correct processing of the Payroll and HRMIS systems.

Since May of last year, the payroll group has been without a systems project leader and down one senior programmer analyst. Vartanian voluntarily gave up his personal time off to address and resolve operating problems and provided support to the other members of his group. During this period, there has been a minimum of problems with the execution of the production system and he was able to clear up several bothersome processing quirks of the system enabling it to process more efficiently.

Elvira Valdez-Broida was named Human Resources Employee of the Quarter. Last year, she managed Pay-for-Performance and invested many extra hours and weekends to insure that retroactive checks were issued in mid-August, a record-breaker for the District. In 1991, she served as the group leader in a large hiring of bus operators. Valdez-Broida has earned perfect attendance since she started with the District in 1989. According to her past supervisors, Mario Perez-Ceballos and Kathi Harper of the Employment Office, Elvira has an uncanny ability to produce top quality work under tight deadlines. She is commended for her loyalty, strong commitment, and contributions to the Human Resources Department.



LOOKING FOR CHILD CARE?

The SCRTD Human Resources Department's Dependent Care Program has a Childcare Referral Information Bank (CRIB) program designed to help you find childcare that meets your needs!!

RTD's CRIB program can provide you with information about licensed childcare centers, family day care homes, infant care centers, and/or school-age day care centers, within specific zip code areas.



For information about the CRIB program as well as other Dependent Care Services and Benefits provided by RTD, call:
Dependent Care Office at (213) 972-7155

PLEASE NOTE: The RTD does not endorse or make recommendations regarding the quality of any child care provider and/or program. Parents are responsible for making all final selection decisions.

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In Honor of Black History Month

The following poem, entitled "King," was written by RTD's Jesse Payne, a custodian in the General Services Department:

His name was King
That has a familiar ring.
At times his body suffered with pain.
The Prince of Peace did reign.

Many days behind bars,
and his body full of scars,
The American Way
could not tarnish his fame.
The Nobel Peace prize Martin did claim.

From Gerogia to D.C.,
King felt every man should be free.
Many miles he marched for freedom
with his enemies near,
And their hearts full of fear of this man,
armed only with a trace of a tear.

Though he was humble and meek,
and he would turn the other cheek,
he was a true leader of the people

as he reached his peak.

I hear him say
truth, justice, equality is the way,
as he died in Memphis that mournful day.
So that his life will not have been in vain,
I plead with brothers,
Stop killing each other and use your brain.

In his honor they gave us a day.
But I can still hear Martin as he prayed,
"As sure as there is a moon and sun,
One day we shall overcome."

Note: Payne, who has been writing poetry for nearly 20 years, has been with the District three months. His son, Gerry, is a shop steward for the Red Line. Says the Gardena resident, "I find that I compose better when I'm driving. My mind is clear and things just come naturally." Payne says he writes about conditions in this country, which are "perhaps more understandable when read by black people." As for working at the RTD, he says he couldn't be more pleased!



Retirees Lacey, Weddaburne, Williams, and Gilmer Honored

On Sunday, February 7, 1993, over 250 guests, including family, friends and co-workers gathered in inclement weather at the Regency West in the Crenshaw District to honor four of RTD's finest operators.

The four retirees are: Ralph Gilmer, Division 7 -- 23 years; Gerald Lacey, Division 9 -- 23 years; Dudley Weddaburne, Division 7 -- 23 years; Charlie Williams, Division 7 -- 32 3/4 years. This is a total of 101 3/4 years of service!

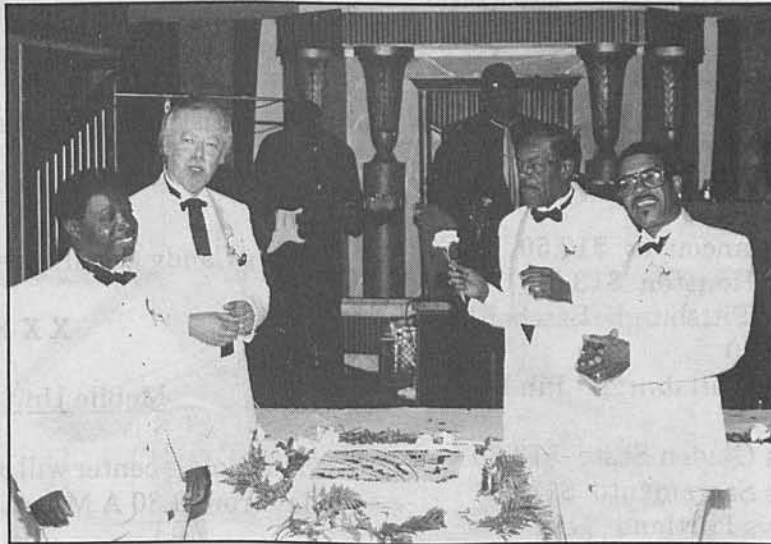
These retirees have had the opportunity of being employed by MTA-RTD-MTA. They have been witness to structural, environmental and cultural changes in the City of Los Angeles. Their true stories of daily life on the streets of this city have been endless.

Charlie, for instance was recently honored for saving a baby's life. Some years ago, while he was driving his bus along Wilshire Boulevard, he witnessed the assassination of Iran's ambassador to the United States. Dudley's family expressed their pleasure of having him home to complete re-modeling projects and being available to keep the automo-

biles tuned. Ralph's advise to junior operators is, "You have a good job, abide by the rules, and you will always be employed." Gerald plans to follow his father's steps by managing his construction company in the State of Arizona.

The party was provided by the retirees, coordinated by Operators Betty and Adrienne Williams of Division 7, and Transportation General Secretary, Patricia Campbell.

All attendees enjoyed a wonderful evening of good music, good friends, and good food as they bid these gentlemen a fond farewell. All of their friends wish them a long, healthy and prosperous retirement. However, their loyal service to transportation in Los Angeles will be sorely missed.



From left to right, Dudley Weddaburne, Gerald Lacey, Charles Williams, and Ralph Gilmer

— Submitted by Pat Campbell

Dependent Care Tip:

If you would like information about services available to seniors in your area, we suggest that you call the Eldercare Locator.

Eldercare Locator:

1-800-677-1116

tor, a toll-free hot line, which helps put older adults in touch with the community services they need. The number is (800) 677-

1116. The line is funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging and operates Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The hot line's computerized database is organized by zip code, so that callers can be referred to nearby service. All referrals are to publicly-funded, not private programs.



RECREATION NEWS



- March 28 Lakers vs Indiana - \$13.50 Forum
- 28 WWF Wrestling - Sports Arena 7:30 P.M. \$18.50
- 30 Clippers vs Lakers - Sports Arena \$22.50
- April 2 Clippers vs Atlanta - \$19.50
- Dodgers vs Angels - Freeway Series Calendar Night \$8.50
- 3 BB King - Universal Amphitheatre \$22.00
- 10 Phantom of the Opera - Matinee 2:30 P.M. \$60.50
- 12 Clippers vs Phoenix \$19.50
- 13 Dodgers vs St. Louis - Opening Day 1:00 P.M. \$8.50
- 15 Kings vs Vancouver \$17.50
- 16 Lakers vs Houston \$13.50
- 16 Dodgers vs Pittsburgh - Baseball Card Night \$8.50
- 17 Dodgers vs Pittsburgh - Pin Day #1 \$8.50
- 18 Lakers vs Golden State \$13.50
- 24 Lakers vs Sacramento \$13.50
- 25 Clippers vs Portland \$19.50
- 28 Dodgers vs Montreal - Bat/Batting Glove Night \$8.50
- 30 Dodgers vs Philadelphia - Fireworks \$8.50

Special gifts for all occasions at discounted prices, watches, toys, stuffed animals, special basket arrangements, cards, film and more. Easter is coming.

MAGIC MOUNTAIN SPECIAL March 27, 28
April 3-18, 24, 25, \$14.00

Still available a few precious pieces of RTD History! Limited logo items on sale while they last.

Amusement Park tickets available. Good any day tickets for: Knotts Berry Farm \$17.00 Adults \$11.95 Children

Universal Studios \$21.50 Adults \$17.50 Children

Sea World \$17.95 Adults \$13.75 Children

Magic Mountain \$19.25 Adults \$15.00 Children

Wild Bills - Dinner Show \$23.00 Adults \$16.50 Children

Save money at the movies, discounts for the following movie theatre chains; Edwards \$4.75; AVCO General Cinema \$4.50; AMC \$4.50; Pacific Walk-In or Drive-In \$4.50; Cineplex Odeon \$4.75; United Artists \$4.50; Imax \$4.25

See's Candy Certificates 1lb. \$7.10 2lb. \$13.70

X X X X

Mobile Unit Schedule

The mobile center will operate Monday through Friday from 9:30 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

<u>April</u>	<u>Loc.</u>		
1	7	16	CMF
2	5	20	16
5	18	21	8
6	2	22	15
7	12	23	7
8	1	26	Main.
9	4	27	5
12	11	28	18
13	6	29	2

The Employee Activities Office is open from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Second floor of the Headquarter's building, telephone 972-4740.

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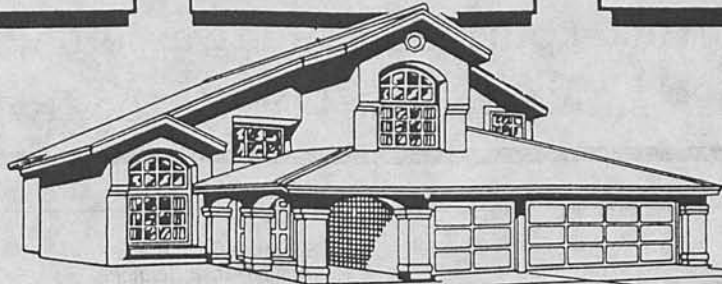
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FREE INFORMATION

Real Estate Broker/Cal. Dept. of Real Estate and Licensed under
Dept. of Corporations.



Hand-picked by Manager Mike Lynch, Division 10 Operator Patty Scranton assisted many Angelenos in making their first Red Line ticket purchases. She was joined by friend and rail safety mascot, "Travis the Owl."

HEADWAY

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