

## A Busy Weekend Promoting Safety for South Bay Volunteers

By RICH MORALLO

(Sept. 10, 2002) Metro South Bay volunteers set up information tables in south Los Angeles, Inglewood and San Pedro, last weekend, to distribute bus and train safety messages to about 6,000 residents.

On Saturday, Sept. 7, the Metro volunteers were at the Point Fermin Arts and Cultural Fair in San Pedro and also at a family block party. The next day they supported the Fiestas Patrias celebration at the Hollywood Park Racetrack in Inglewood.

"Participating at community events is important - we get a chance to meet people who ride our buses," says Division 18 Transportation Operations Supervisor Frank Aguilar.

Operator Darlene Heyden says customers sometimes don't know where to go to ask questions about bus operations. "We're here to give them answers, listen to their feedback and improve our services."

At the block party, TOS Michael Morris from Arthur Winston Division 5 showed up for his second consecutive weekend of talking to the community. "Community interaction is important and I can do it."

### Focused on recruiting

Fellow division member Royal Foreman, an equipment maintenance supervisor, worked with Morris and focused on recruiting candidates as MTA employees.

Working alongside bus operations staff at Hollywood Park, train safety volunteers Bill Moore from MTA Construction and Yvette Moore with the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, stayed busy passing out safety coloring books, crayons and Metro bags during the Fiestas Patrias, which celebrate various independence days of Latin American nations.

"I actually got here early, about two hours before the organizers started to set up the tables," said Bill Moore. "I

PHOTOS BY RICH MORALLO



Metro South Bay General Manager Dana Coffey and Communications Officer Vicky Woods with Ritter Elementary students showing off sections of a newspaper.



Family with Metro promotional materials during Fiestas Patrias at Hollywood Park.




Michael Morris (far left) and Royal Foreman (far right) talk to community members at the 120th Street Block Party.

woke up at 4:30 a.m. and already started thinking about coming here to talk to the families about Metro, safety and public transit."



Other Metro South Bay staff and train safety volunteers who worked last weekend were Ken Matsuno, Bill Mergard, Dana Coffey, Cindy Karpman, Vicky Woods and her son Carlos, Carlos Reyes, Cheryl Brown, Jackie Anderson and Vanessa Smith.

 Darlene Heyden answers questions at the Point Fermin Arts and Cultural Fair.

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