

## Transportation Manager Mace Bethel Retires From MTA

By LISA HUYNH

(March 5, 2003) Another chapter has closed in the life of Transportation Manager Mace Bethel.

Bethel, who managed San Gabriel Valley Division 9, has retired after 28 years of service.



Transportation Manager Mace Bethel is retiring after 28 years of service.

Assistant Transportation Manager Yvonne Smith will be the acting manager for the next few weeks until General Manager Jack Gabig finds a replacement.

Bethel first came to MTA when he was 21 years old. Starting as an operator, he rose through the ranks to become an instructor, assistant manager and manager.

After the death of his father last November, he came to realize that life is "too short and too precious."

"I'm retiring because tomorrow is not a promise to anyone," says Bethel. "If I'm blessed to live another 20 years, there's a lot I would like to do."

### Future Plans

Bethel plans to spend quality time with his 13-year-old son Aaron, playing basketball, helping with his homework and backpacking at Philmont Scout Reservation in New Mexico.

"In life, we're so busy earning an income that sometimes we don't have time for our children," says Bethel. "I want to spend as much time with him as possible before he gets older."

Bethel would love to write a book about life strategies and entitle it, "You Get What You Demand."

He plans to ride his newly purchased Harley across the country to Milwaukee, Wis. for Harley Davidson's 100th anniversary celebration this summer.

Bethel says he's had a great career and is proud to have been part of Division 9.

"It has been a fun ride," says Bethel. "It has been a safe trip. This bus has come home and now it's time to move on."

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