

## Division 10's Jack Owens Retires After 28 Years at MTA

By JENNIFER YEH

(March 13, 2003) Since coming to MTA in 1975, Gateway Division 10 Assistant Transportation Manager Jack Owens has operated in almost every division.

After twenty-eight rewarding years, Owens is retiring.

Owens started working at MTA as a bus operator at Cypress Park Division 3 and other Los Angeles divisions for two and half years before becoming a division dispatcher for seven years.

In 1995 Owens became the assistant transportation manager at Gateway Division 10 where he has remained ever since.

Some of Owens' memorable highlights at MTA came in 1984 during the Olympics. Owens, alongside Assistant Manager Jim Lukens, hired, housed and managed 500 temporary employees for the international event.

"During that time we worked twelve-hour shifts every days, seven days a week," Owens recalls.

### Helped start new division

In 1993, Owens helped put together Crossroads Depot Division 2 from scratch. With no available budget, Owens was able find the funds to furnish the empty division, tear down walls for the train room, replace new tiles and even acquire used computers.

As for his future plans, Owens plans to spend his retirement with his grandchildren and further pursue his hobby of making stained glass windows.

Owens has also looked into applying for other job positions that might be of interest.

"I'm still young and I'm due for a change," he says. " I'm looking forward to a challenge."

"It's been a great twenty-eight years and I've really enjoyed working for MTA. It's a good job and I've never had a dull day out here. That's for sure."

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PHOTOS BY JENNIFER YEH



Metro Bus Operator Phil Derbigny, left, congratulates retiring Assistant Transportation Manager Jack Owens.



Metro Bus Operator Bruce Montgomery helps break out the cake.

