

Event coordinators, from left, seated, Ora Ventry and Sandra Mcghee and, back row from left, Felicia Jackson, Ronald Jackson, Addie Allison, Rose Mumford, Sonja Owens, Rosa Chavez celebrate Juneteenth with fellow employees.

PHOTO BY FRANKLIN A. HOLMAN



MTA Employees Join in Celebration of Juneteenth

By FRANKLIN A. HOLMAN

(July 1, 2003) MTA employees gathered together in June to "let freedom ring" as they celebrated Juneteenth with spiritual songs, stories and serving upon serving of soul food.

Divisions 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, and 10 hosted Juneteenth festivities during the month. Each division's celebration featured plenty of food, ranging from Crossroads Division 2's barbequed chicken and ribs prepared by master chef Erwin McCrury, to the potluck specialties prepared by employees from Venice Division 6.

"The barbeque was going from early morning until everyone was well satisfied," Division 2 Assistant Transportation Manager Thom Pelk said. "As expected, the array of food was superb."

Besides the variety of food, some division Juneteenth celebrations featured music. Division 2 enjoyed tunes by DJ Abel Zuniga. Soloist Sandra Mcgee entertained Central City Division 1, singing "Precious Lord."

After enjoying food and songs, Division 1 employees read the history of Juneteenth. The holiday commemorates June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that all slaves were now free.

Divisions 6, 7 and 10 topped off the Juneteenth events with their celebration last Friday.

"By reading, celebrating, and remembering what this celebration is all about, it helps us remember and be thankful for our freedom," Transportation Manager Sonja Owens said.

[Back to Bulletin Board](#)