

The Winners!

Div. 9
 Operator
 Mark
 Holland,
 Div. 5
 Mechanics
 Win
 2003 Bus
 Roadeo

Text and photos by BILL HEARD, Editor

2003 MTA Bus Roadeo Champion Mark Holland of Division 9 signals his third victory.



Mechanics Frank Forde, center left, and Rommel Vargas of Division 5 celebrate their Roadeo victory with Maintenance Manager Alex DiNuzzo, South Bay General Manager Dana Coffey, Deputy CEO John Catoe and others. Not shown is team member Andrew Warren, Jr.

(July 22, 2003) Division 9 Operator Mark Holland posted his third MTA Bus Roadeo championship, Saturday, taking the 2003 competition. Mechanics Andrew Warren, Jr., Rommel Vargas and Frank Forde of Arthur Winston Division 5 won the maintenance competition.

The team will represent MTA at the APTA International Bus Roadeo, this September, in Salt Lake City and at the Southern California Regional Bus Roadeo, next month, in Chula Vista.

Holland, 43, a 20-year MTA veteran who also has worked as a Metro Rail operator, scored

an impressive 634 points. He won the MTA competition in 2001 and 1999. It was the first win for the Division 5 mechanics, who formed a new team this year.

Placing a close second in the operator's competition was Juan Navarro of North Los Angeles Division 3 with 614 points and Julio Flores of West Valley Division 8 with 585 points.

The Division 5 team led the maintenance competition with 775 points, but Gateway Division 10's team of Alan Wong, Doug Creveling and David Klinkenborg – the 2001 winners – finished a close second with 730 points. South Bay Division 18's Javier Soria, Mina Ros and Luke Logan – the 2002 winners – took third place with 665 points.

Celebrating victories

Celebrating along with the top operators and teams were San Gabriel Valley General Manager Jack Gabig and South Bay General Manager Dana Coffey. Gabig's sector claimed two of the top three operators and five of the top 10 scorers, while two of the three top-scoring maintenance teams hail from Coffey's sector.

An estimated 450 employees, family members and friends turned out on a blistering sunny day in Arcadia to watch the competition, participate in family activities, a classic car show and barbecue, and to renew old acquaintances.



Deputy CEO John Catoe, right, congratulates Operator Juan Navarro of Division 3, who placed second with 614 points.



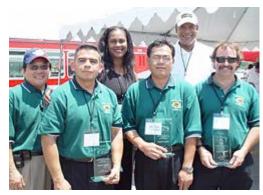
2002 winners – took third place Operator Julio Flores of West Valley Division 8 with 665 points. placed third with 585 points.



Gateway Division 10's team of Doug Creveling, Alan Wong and David Klinkenborg finished a close second with 730 points. Joining the team were Steve Mullaly, maintenance competition coordinator, Division 10 Maintenance Manager Pat Orr, Deputy CEO John Catoe and others.

In a secluded compound away from the crowd, maintenance teams raced against time to complete their portion of the competition.

The North Los Angeles Division 3 team of Tim Wong, Jose Gomez and Chris Hurtado placed fourth with 640 points. The Central City Division 1 team of Fred Hines, Gustavo Sanchez and Sergio Barron took fifth place with 575 points.



South Bay Division 18's Javier Soria, Mina Ros and Luke Logan took third place with 665 points. Congratulating the team were Maintenance Manager Ken Matsuno, South Bay General Manager Dana Coffey and Deputy CEO John Catoe.

In sixth place was the Crossroads Depot Division 2 team of Juan Villalba, Andrew Filimaua and Ed Hernandez with 555 points. Venice Division 6's team of John Edrich, Naren Desai and Jesus Guerra placed seventh with 545 points.

The Regional Rebuild Center's team of Tony Herumin, Cal Tran and Robert Pfile finished eighth with 415 points. In ninth place was the West Valley Division 8 team of Jeremy Lockwood, Simon Agaronov and Ryszard Sciclowski with 310 points.

Operator finalists

Final results in the operators' competition showed Daniel Keosababian of Division 3, the 2002 Roadeo winner, in fifth place with 572 points; Joe Acosta, Division 3, 571; Ramiro Mota, Division 1, 563; Theodore Neill, Division 8, 560; and Luduvico Castro, Division 9, 558 points.

Also, Lawrence Tubbs, Division 2, 556 points; Brian Miles, Division 3, 529; Samuel Morales, Division 1, 524; James Hazelitt, Division 10, 518; Hugo Mercado, Division 1, 513; Maximiliano De Angelis, Division 7, 484; and Jorge Melendez, Division 7, 474.

Also, Hugo Repreza, Division 15, 474 points; Steve Vaden, Division 10, 471; Alex Reyes, Division 7, 466; Joaquin Barron-Hernandez, Division 5, 459; Juan Medrano, Division 9, 458; Nipon Pasaphunthu, Division 3, 444; and Adolfo Cortez, Division 10, 431 points.

Also, Ben Flores, Division 2, 431 points; Jose Sierra, Division 2, 415; Edwin Cerros, Division 2, 408; David Aguilar, Division 1, 403; Marco Mejia-Portillo, Division 1, 399; Jose Herrera, Division 9, 396; and Andre Burroughs, Division 7, 358 points.

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