


[Home](#)
[CEO Hotline](#)
[Viewpoint](#)
[Classified Ads](#)
[Archives](#)
[Metro.net \(web\)](#)

Resources

[Safety](#)
[Pressroom \(web\)](#)
[Ask the CEO](#)
[CEO Forum](#)
[Employee Recognition](#)
[Employee Activities](#)
[Metro Projects](#)
[Facts at a Glance \(web\)](#)
[Archives](#)
[Events Calendar](#)
[Research Center/Library](#)
[Metro Classifieds](#)
[Bazaar](#)

Metro Info

[30/10 Initiative](#)
[Policies](#)
[Training](#)
[Help Desk](#)
[Intranet Policy](#)

Need e-Help?

Call the Help Desk
at 2-4357

[Contact myMetro.net](#)

Now online: Library digitizes 50 years of employee newsmagazines

- Check it out: [Employee Newsmagazines](#) at the Dorothy Peyton Gray Transportation Library and Archive

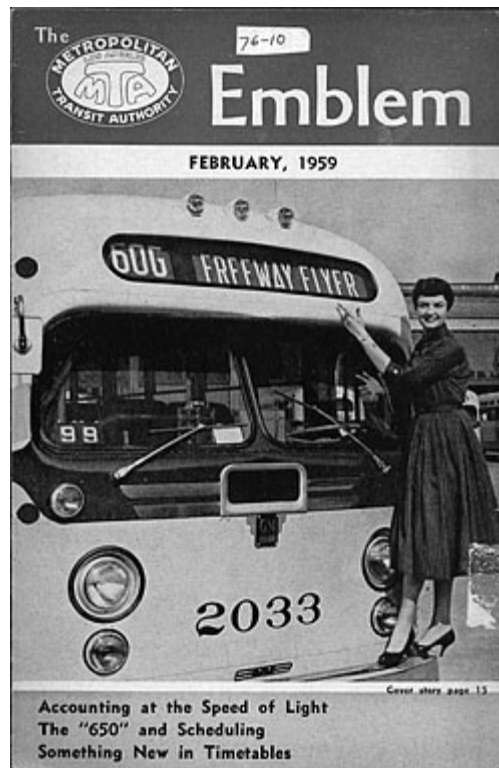
By Kenn Bicknell
Librarian

In recognition of 50 years of publicly owned and operated transit service and the employees who made it happen, the Dorothy Peyton Gray Transportation Library and Archive has digitized its employee newsmagazine collection to make it more accessible to employees, retirees, historians, and anyone who wishes to revisit the last half-century of public transportation in the Los Angeles area.

The digitized collection includes issues from the first Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA 1958-1964), the Southern California Rapid Transit District (SCRTD 1964-1993), Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC 1976-1993), as well as the pre-intranet years of Metro.

The tradition of transit employee newsmagazines in Los Angeles dates back to 1920.

The publications of Pacific Electric, Los Angeles Railway and other transit company predecessors have helped employees understand one another's job functions, provided recognition for everyone's hard work over the years, and have given insight into the direction of company leadership.



Just a click away: 50 years of history

You can find the links to the past 50 years of employee newsmagazines like the Emblem, Headway, Inside Moves, and Metro Family, among others, on myMetro.net's [Employee Newsmagazines](#) page.

Many of these documents are also hosted on the Library's Scribd site at <http://www.scribd.com/people/view/4077018>, where the individual newsmagazine titles have their own folders to browse.

The November, 1982 issue of the RTD Headway reports on the prestigious film awards won by "Starting Under," a documentary about the Metro Rail project that was years away from completion.

The Library also provides access to the film itself via its [You Tube](#) channel. The 18-minute film can be found in two parts, Part I: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKHRHikfV5Q>, and Part II: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9ZHOacqi84>

The employee newsmagazines also document our employees' dedicated and heroic work performed in the aftermath of extraordinary circumstances, such as: The 1978 [floods](#), the

The digitization and archival project took about a year to complete:

- Library staff had the publications digitized for preservation purposes.
- Each publication was optimized for web viewing and tagged with metadata so that keyword searching would locate relevant issues on *myMetro.net*.
- The newsletters were rendered compliant with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act. (Section 508 requires that digital documents are as accessible as possible to people using alternative methods to view, read or listen to them.)

These resources are not only a valuable record of Los Angeles Metro and its predecessor agencies, but probably the best sources of historical information about the various departments and the operating divisions over the years.

You can read about the first computer used at the Metropolitan Transit Authority in the February 1959 issue of *The Emblem*. The upcoming 50th anniversary of "accounting at the speed of light" by large data processing machines using punch cards helps us all realize how far we have come in using computerized processes for everyday work.

Said Library Administrator Matthew Barrett: "At some point in the future, when resources are available, the library will be working with the Orange Empire Railway Museum to ensure both Metro and the Museum have complete runs and digitally accessible collections of Pacific Electric Magazine and Los Angeles Railway's *Two Bells* magazine."

1994 [Northridge earthquake](#), the response to the 1992 riots from the [District's Headway](#) and the Commission's [Inside Moves](#)

