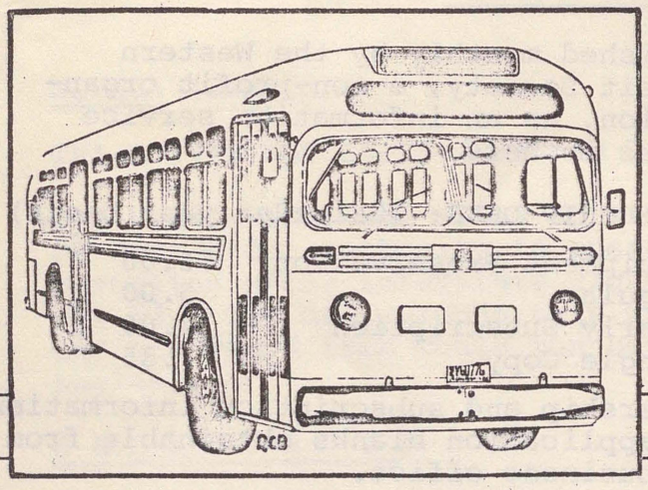


Western Transit

Monthly Publication of The Western Transit Society

Vol. 10 No. 3 March 1972

W A S H I N G T O N

SEATTLE TRANSIT SYSTEM (STS)

SEATTLE: STS routes 43-85th St SHUTTLE and 48-23rd AVE were merged effective January 19th. Previously route 43 ended at 65th Street and 32nd Avenue NE, while route 48 ended at 45th Street and University Way NE. Now the two routes have been joined by a link via University Way and 15th Avenue. The through routed line 43/48 operates between Franklin High School and Sunset Hill (85th St and 32nd Ave, NW) and allows 3,700 daily passengers a no transfer ride to the University of Washington.

The Blue Streak program has been so successful that plans are now afoot to build a 1000 car parking lot near the freeway and North 110th St in the Northgate District. The present Park-N-Ride lot near 5th Ave and 112th St, NE has a capacity of 500 cars and is filled up before 8:00AM daily. Changes are also pending for construction of bus only ramps leading to and from the express lanes of the Interstate 5 Freeway at 106th and 107th Streets in Northgate.

OLYMPIA-TUMWATER TRANSIT COMMISSION (OTTC)

OLYMPIA: The OTTC took over from the OLYMPIA TRANSIT CO. on January 1st. As one of their first actions they ordered 4 model TC-31 Twin Coaches from Highway Products. The buses are to be equipped with 4-53N Detroit Diesel engines, Allison automatic transmissions, and combination radios and tape deck players.

N E V A D A

GRAY LINE MOTOR TOURS (GLMT)

LAS VEGAS: GLMT is offering a new tour this year featuring Hoover Dam, Boulder City, Lake Mead Marina, and a cruise on Lake Mead aboard the vessel "Echo." GLMT, like GRAY LINE OF LOS ANGELES, is owned by GRAY LINE OF WASHINGTON, D. C.

MEETING DATE

Next Meeting - April 16, 1972
Location: West side of Los Angeles 1/4 block North of Olympic Blvd., 3 blocks East of Fairfax Ave.

936 S. Genessee Ave.
Los Angeles

Transportation SCRTD Lines 4 & 89

Future meeting - May 14, 1972

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FIVE YEARS AGO IN "THE BOOSTER"

March 1967

SCRTD inaugurated a 5 cent transfer charge, but allowed for the first time transfers between interurban and local lines and stop-over privleges.

SAN DIEGO TRANSIT SYSTEM established Route A-AIRPORT between the Plaza and the new San Diego International Airport on a twenty minute headway seven days a week using two TDH 4512's (878 and 880) which were equipped with luggage racks.

OXNARD MUNICIPAL TRANSIT SYSTEM placed their new TDH3501's into s service and started a new line, 4-PARK WEST LOOP for a total of six lines.

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NEW MEMBERS

#112 - Leonard McKinlay
Rowland Heights, Calif.

#113 - Ralph Cantos
Los Angeles, Calif.

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WESTERN TRANSIT

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The National Bus Museum, 210 South Lafayette Park Place, #115, Los Angeles, Calif. 90057 was formed on January 1, 1972. All forms have been filed with both the state and federal government for a tax exemption status for the organization. They are already funded and are currently looking for old classic motor coaches to preserve. Stanley Soho is the acting president.

NEVADA (Cont'd)

TRI COUNTY BUS LINES (Mark I[illegible] Corporation d/b/a)

LAS VEGAS: TCBL has filed application with The Public Service Commission of Nevada for authority to operate between Las Vegas and Ely via Caliente traveling along Interstate Highway 15, Nevada Highway 7, and U. S. Highway 93. One daily round trip will be operated between Las Vegas and Ely and one round trip would run between Las Vegas and Ely using two Silver Eagles.

C A L I F O R N I A

CALIFORNIA PARLOR CAR TOURS (CPCT)

SAN FRANCISCO: The six day LAKE TAHOE-YOSEMITE-COAST-MISSION TRAILS tour which stopped enroute at Sacramento, Lake Tahoe, Yosemite, Monterey, Santa Maria, and Santa Barbara was cancelled for 1972. There had been nine departures from both Los Angeles and San Francisco during the summer. The 3, 4, and 5 day tours are all still being operated as before.

SOUTH COAST TRANSIT CORP. (SCTC)

SANTA ANA: Both SCTC and SANTA ANA TRANSIT CORP. are conducting a "Courtesy Crusade" in an effort to encourage more people to travel by bus. Part of the program will be the selection of "Mr. Courtesy 1972" by the bus riders. One operator from each company will receive the honor and will wear a shoulder patch making them members of the "Glad to Have You Aboard Club". In other news, SCTC who had filed a formal complaint with the Public Utilities Commission against PINK BUS LINE and the University of California at Irvine over operation of a new route linking UCI with several Orange County communities (WT 1/72, 2/72), withdrew the complaint when UCI agreed to limit the service to students. The UCI route, which is free, duplicates SCTC's SANTA ANA-LAGUNA BEACH route between Pacific Coast Highway and McArthur Blvd. and 17th and Orange and SCTC contended this route violated a PUC regulation which forbids general service in competition with an existing bus line. The PUC code does not have jurisdiction over routes operated exclusively for students.

HERBERT'S BUS SERVICE (H. Herbert d/b/a)

OXNARD: On February 9th a PUC hearing was held on HBS's application for a Class B charter certificate - TCP 23B. Herbert is a Baptist Minister in Oxnard and owns one 1946 Brill IC41 coach which he proposed to use. CONSOLIDATED STREET RAILWAYS, CHANNEL ISLANDS BUS SYSTEM, CAL COAST CHARTER, and GREYHOUND LINES-WEST all appeared at the hearing in opposition to the application. A decision has not yet been rendered.

PALOMAR TRANSPORT (PT)

UPLAND: PT has withdrawn its application for a Class B charter certificate (WT 12/71). A Class B certificate, when issued, allows a carrier to originate intrastate charters within a radius of up to 40 miles (air miles) from the firm's home terminal.

CALIFORNIA (Cont'd)

CONSOLIDATED STREET RAILWAYS (CSR)

PICO RIVERA: Monday, February 28th saw inauguration of public transit service in the City of Simi Valley as CSR 3003 (PD4104/2587) departed Simi Valley for downtown Los Angeles (WT 1/72). Eight passengers plus CSR Traffic Manager and WTS member Bob Burrowes were on board for the first trip which was driven by WTS member Mike (PQ) Campbell. The schedule for the service is shown below:

33A	31C	TRIP NO.	34B	32C
700PM	615AM	SIMI VALLEY Aristotle & Los Angeles	600AM	645PM
710PM	625AM	SIMI VALLEY Sycamore & Los Angeles	550AM	635PM
720PM	637AM	SIMI VALLEY Keuhner & Los Angeles	540AM	623PM
730PM	649AM	CHATSWORTH Devonshire & Tpgn Cnyn	537AM	611PM
737PM	658AM	GRANADA HILLS Devonshire & Reseda	530AM	602PM
746PM	707AM	MISSION HILLS Devonshire & Sepulveda	525AM	553PM
757PM	730AM	HOLLYWOOD Western & Hollywood Fwy	515AM	525PM
815PM	745AM	LOS ANGELES 7th & Los Angeles Sts	500AM	515PM

Read Down Read Up

a - operates Fridays only except holidays
b - operates Monday only except holidays
c - operates Monday thru Friday except holidays

On the previous Friday ceremonies honoring the establishment of the new service were held in Simi Valley with city representatives, businessmen, Chamber of Commerce officials, and Miss Simi Valley participating.

GREYHOUND LINES - WEST (GL-W)

SAN FRANCISCO: GL-W has filed an application with the PUC to operate over Interstate Highway 5 between its junction with Interstate 580 near Los Banos and the junction with California Highway 99 near Wheeler Ridge in Kern County. This route would be used as a regular route for express schedules on the LOS ANGELES-SAN FRANCISCO VIA VALLEY route. CONTINENTAL WESTERN LINES was previously authorized to use the new I 5 route and both firms plan to route trips over the new highway later this spring. The highway opened as scheduled March 1st. It is believed that the last certificate of this length was issued back in 1938 when CWL's predecessor, SANTA FE TRAILWAYS, received a certificate between Los Angeles and San Francisco via Fresno. An additional batch of MC7's (2000-2150) are now starting to be delivered for assignment ot Pool 261 - Southwest Area which includes all east/west service via El Paso. GL-W was also requesting PUC authority to operate from the Garden Grove Freeway along Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove Blvd., Haster Street and Katella Avenue to the Santa Ana Freeway to enable buses on the LONG BEACH-SAN BERNADINO route to serve Anaheim in addition to Santa Ana and Riverside.

CALIFORNIA (Cont'd)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT (SCRTD)

LOS ANGELES: RTD experienced its first work stoppage from February 28th through March 4th when 650 mechanics represented by Division 1277 of the Amalgamated Transit Union walked off their jobs after rejecting an RTD offer. The major stumbling block was the length of the contract (RTD wanted 33 months, ATU two years) and a cost of living clause which the former agreement did not contain. The new contract calls for a 5.5% wage hike each year over the life of the 33 month pact, which is retroactive to last September 1st when the old contract expired. Mechanics who now earn $5.15 per hour will be making $6.05 at the end of the contract in 1974. RTD will contribute $15 a month more to a union administered medical and welfare plan. RTD will also be paying $48.17 a month for the health and welfare of each worker. Improvements in vacations and sick leave and a cost of living clause providing for an extra cent for each .5% increase in the Los Angeles/Long Beach Cost of Living Index.were also included. Jack Gilstrap, RTD General Manager, stated that the increased costs can be met without any fare increase at this time.

In other news, minor route and service changes were made on the EASTERN CITIES TRANSIT lines January 30th concurrent with the expiration of the former company's labor agreements and the extension of the exact fare plan to those lines. Integration of the ECT lines into the SCRTD system and increase of the local ECT fares (20¢ cash, 3 tokens for 50¢) to the SCRTD level were considered but found not to be in the best interests of the District or the community. Therefore, the present fare structure will be retained.

An additional 44 buses have been advertised for sale at no stated minimum bid price. Included are the six buses acquired from LA RAMBLA BUS LINES, INC., all 25 remaining 6600's (TDH3610's), and all 13 remaining 6900's (12 TDH4507's and the one TDH4509). Any buses unsold will go, along with the unsold remainder from previous offerings, into a bus auction.

Rush hour service was increased, starting January 24th, on several lines. These service improvements are related to the hiring of additional operators under the Federal Employee Emergency Act. With the start of this increased service, approximately fifteen 6500's (TDH4801's) have been returned to service at Division 4/5.

Since our last report, the following coaches have been observed repainted into the District color scheme of RTD Yellow, Champagne Gold, and white: 2122, 2131, 5181, and 5185.

BLUE AND WHITE BUS COMPANY OF WATTS, INC.

WATTS: Blue and White has offered all of its [redacted] sale to SCRTD. The District Board decided that any such acquisition should follow the same procedure as the ECT purchase - preliminary appraisals followed by an application to UMTA for a two-thirds grant. Meanwhile, steps have been taken toward including former B&WBLW employees in the existing labor agreements.

CALIFORNIA (Cont'd)

GOLDEN GATE TRANSIT (GGT)

SAN RAFAEL: Committees of the board of directors have approved the expansion of the fleet and the hiring of the personnel needed to operate it. Bus Transit Manager Don White said that the purchase of new buses would give the district 188 new buses plus the 20 leased from GREYHOUND LINES-WEST. He also estimated that a total of 300 buses would probably be needed within five more years. Personnel needed to operate the expanded fleet would be increased from 293 at present to 304. The additional job will cost $99,086 per year.

BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT (BARTD)

OAKLAND: Directors have approved the providing of 600 bicycle racks and heavy chains at 27 BART stations. The estimated cost for the installation is $20,000 to $30,000. The racks will be subject to competitive bidding, but the specifications will call for theft-preventing chains. Bicycle riders could use the racks free of charge, but would have to provide their own padlocks.

SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL RAILWAY (SFMRy)

SAN FRANCISCO: Will the famous San Francisco mayor be able to halt the threatened Muni service cuts? Will State Senator Milton Marks successfully introduce legislation to head off the reductions in service? Will the fare strike cause the city hall to find the needed money to carry the Muni through the fiscal year? Stay tuned and find out.

As it stands now, Mayor Alioto is refusing to interfere with the scheduled cutbacks in Muni service. After working with the problems of the Muni and the City for more than a week, he concluded that the vast majority of the cutbacks in Muni services were justified and "relatively minor." Examinations, as promised to the people, were made of the Water Department and the Hetch Hetchy Water and Power System reserves to see if funds for the Muni could be found.

Meanwhile, Senator Milton Marks announced that he planned to introduce emergency elgislation to head off the cuts in service. His bill would enable the Muni to receive 10% of the one-half cent BART sales tax currently levied in San Francisco, or about $600,000.

Also fearing the service cuts are the Muni operators. They have proposed a fare strike to stop the reductions. Specifically, the fare strike hinges on Rule 18 of the Rule Book which says in part "persons who claim to have paid their fares must be given the benefit of the doubt..."

The fronts of Muni's new buses are receiving advertising frames which fit between the headlights. Most of the coaches operating out of Ocean Division have them while only a small portion of the Kirkland Division coaches have the new frames.

CALIFORNIA (Cont'd)

SAN DIEGO TRANSIT CORP. (SDTC)

SAN DIEGO: Line 5-CLAIREMONT-MARKET STREET was rerouted on January 23rd between Federal Blvd./Euclid Ave. and 54th Street/Haniman Drive to operate via Federal, Bayview Heights Dr., Grape St, and Haniman Dr. to 54th. All trips but early morning and late night service operates along the new routing with those trips running along Euclid as before. With the new T6H5307A's in service (WT 2/72), TDH4801's #501-530 have been placed into storage until the Republican National Convention this summer. The new 400 series coaches feature two piece headsigns like all former SAN DIEGO TRANSIT SYSTEM buses. The new signs include:

Allied Gardens	State College
Pacific Beach	College Grove
La Mesa	Crown Point
Fletcher Hills	Charter
City of El Cajon	Convention Hall
Lemon Grove	Downtown San Diego
Msn & Fashion Valley Only	Blank
Linda Vista	To Garage
Industrial Park	School
Catalina Blvd.	Stadium
Rosecrans	Express
Naval Training Center	El Cajon Blvd.
Chula Vista	30th & Adams
Ocean Beach	Airport
Imperial Beach	Mission Hills
San Ysidro	Ocean View Blvd.
Sports Arena	Lomita Village
Mission Beach	Clairemont
La Jolla	54th St. Via Market
La Jolla Shores	North Park
East San Diego	Balboa Park
Coronado	Kensington
Logan Heights	So. Spring Valley
National City	

AC TRANSIT (ACT)

OAKLAND: AC Transit is converting its total fleet of new look coaches to an improved fuel injector as a step in reducing air pollution. With the new Low Sac Needle injectors, the coaches will meet California's 1973 emissions standards. A recent report by the Urban Mass Transportation Administration said "significant reductions" in smoke, unburned hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide can be attributed to installation of LSN injectors. Scheduled for conversion are 462 buses. The report adds that concentrated odors can be effectively dispersed by the vertical, aspirated exhaust stack. AC Transit already has purchased 30 coaches with this EIP Kit, which includes the vertical stacks, and another 60 buses with EIP Kits have been ordered for delivery by mid-year.

E Q U I P M E N T R E P O R T

Below is a list of passenger equipment acquired or disposed of by Western operators since our last report. Neither completeness or currency is implied.

Name of Company	Vehicle Nos.	Builder	Model/Serial Nos.	Comments
NEW EQUIPMENT				
Cont'nl Bus System	11539	B&C	05SE/8604	
Union Bus Lines	22513-22516	B&C	05SE/8584-8587	Van Horn-Brownsville Pool
Cont'nl Rky Mtn Lines	21518-21520	B&C	05SE/8580-8582	Seattle-St. Louis Pool
Greyhound Lines West	2000-2010	MCI	07/---	47RR
Assoc. Chrtr Bus Co.	1706-1712	Intl	Intl 16/Wayne	24/36 school seats
USED EQUIPMENT				
Melni Bus Service	320	GMC	PD4103/304	ex Sierra 277
South Coast Transit	2001	GMC	PD4104/4905	ex Texas Mtr Coaches 2001
Roesch Lines	(II)416	GMC	PD4106/1715	ex LVTR 123
Intnl Sghtsng Tours	108	GMC	PD4106/1120	ex LVTR 108
Salinas City Lines	205	GMC	TDH4517/137	ex BRT 122
Safeway Lns & Tour Co	4018	Crown	A-779-11/32718	ex Assoc A4018G

* *

A Word or Two About WESTERN TRANSIT Want Ads...

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Classified: $.01 per word - 25 word minimum. First 25 words free to paid up WTS members for non-commercial purposes.

Payment for all ads must accompany submission of all copy. Copy should be sent to Editorial Address and payments to the Business Office. The Western Transit Society reserves the right to reject any ad.

WANT ADS

For Sale: GM Coach Operating Manuals - X-6740 (for second generation coaches) $1.00 each. Western Transit Society, 1167 North Serrano Ave., Los Angeles Calif. 90029