



HEADWAY



Southern California Rapid Transit District

Volume 2 Number 12 December 10, 1975

Robert Mann, Chief Special Agent, Dies

Robert Dudley Mann, RTD's Chief Special Agent, passed away on Friday, November 28, at the age of 59.

A native of Los Angeles, Bob began his career at the District in 1942 as a motorman for the Los Angeles Railway Co. at Division 3. He became a relief special agent the next year, and in 1953 he was made a regular Special Agent. In 1969 he became Senior Special Agent and four years later, in 1973, became Chief Special Agent for the RTD, and, as such, was responsible for the security of more than 6400 District employees, and our patrons as well as our property.

Funeral services for Bob were held on Tuesday, December 2, in Covina, and were attended by many of his friends at the District. Bob is survived by his wife, Kay, who resides in Glendora; two children: Robert and Elizabeth; and six grandchildren.

The Board of Directors adjourned its meeting of December 3, 1975, in his honor.



Robert D. Mann

Ken Geddes Wins Award For His Role In "Operation Teamwork"



Hospital Charity Fund's Red Rose Nurse, Ellen Bristol, R.N., shows Ram Player Ken Geddes the Red Rose Award that will be presented to him on December 14 for his work in RTD's "Operation Teamwork." Joining her in the presentation will be Fund President Paul Sullivan (right) and Ram coach, Chuck Knox, (left).

L.A. Rams' linebacker Ken Geddes has been awarded the Hospital Charity Fund's "Red Rose Award" for his work in RTD's "Operation Teamwork" project.

Geddes is to receive his award in pre-game ceremonies at the Coliseum on Sunday, December 14, at the Rams-Green Bay Packers game.

The award cites Geddes for his community activities and for his work with young people. Geddes, a graduate of Boys

Town, has been with "Operation Teamwork" since it began last April.

"Operation Teamwork" is a school information program aimed at reducing vandalism on District buses. The program goes into the fifth and sixth grade classrooms throughout Los Angeles County and presents the RTD Story to the youngsters through a special film. After showing the film, Geddes delivers a short presentation of his own and leads a question and answer session with the kids.

District To Participate In Toys For Tots Drive

The District will again take part in this year's Toys for Tots campaign to provide needy children with gifts of toys at Christmas.

The District's participation last year was so successful, that plans were made to repeat the effort again this year. According to Byron E. Cook, RTD President, "The response from our employees was incredible and this year we expect an even greater number of toy donations."

During the drive, which runs until Friday, Dec. 19, employees will be able to bring donations of toys to their work locations where there will be specially marked boxes for toys. At the end of the drive, a special District Street Fleet bus will go around to all RTD facilities to pick up the toys and to deliver them to a U.S. Marine Corps Reserve coordination center. The Marine Corps, which sponsors the drive, will then distribute the toys.

RTD's participation is in honor of Larry Avers, former manager of the news bureau, who had planned the District's activity in the drive shortly before his death last year.



Angie Dickinson, star of the "Police Woman" television series, has been named National Chairman for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's 1975 Toys for Tots Campaign. RTD will be participating in the program for the second time this year.

RTD Buses On Stand By During Big Tujunga Fire

RTD buses were on hand to help out during the recent Big Tujunga fire disaster that blackened more than 65,000 acres of the Angeles National Forest and surrounding areas.

The District's aid was requested by the LAPD and several area agencies to provide stand by buses in case of possible emergency evacuation from several convalescent homes in the area.

In response, four buses were dispatched on Monday, November 24, to the Pacoima Lutheran Hospital and one bus was dispatched to Foothill and Sunland Boulevards to be near the Lake View Terrace Sanitarium. Each bus and operator was on stand by for an average of three hours.

On the following day, after a surprise flare-up of the fire, two buses were again dispatched to Sunland and Foothill Boulevards for another possible evacuation.

Although traffic throughout the area was restricted, RTD buses were allowed to operate with the cooperation of the LAPD,

and District services were not curtailed during the fire.

Divisions 8 and 15, the two divisions in the San Fernando Valley, were not affected by the fire, but the effects of the huge fire could be felt from a distance of 15 miles away.

Visibility in the area was impaired by the low-hanging smoke clouds and operators from both divisions report that the division yards and trainrooms were covered with soot and ashes. Several operators reported that during the worst two days of the fire, they drove with their air conditioners on, and other operators drove with their headlights on during the day. Some operators also reported that their passengers commented on the warm buses and bus seats.

District efforts during the fire were coordinated by Jeff Diehl, Superintendent of Transportation Services, who served as the District's liaison with the LAPD, and who spent most of Monday and Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning at the

various command posts set up by the LAPD.

Diehl has high praise for the operators who were on stand by: "All the operators displayed a willing attitude and an eagerness to assist during an extreme emergency. It was an outstanding act on their part."

The five operators, all from Division 15, were: Ronald Whitney; Nelson Alvarez; Danny Alford; Fred Barton and Kenneth Meyer.

Diehl also credits road supervisors Leonard Finn and William Warren who led the stand by buses to the stand by locations; William Lorusso, assistant chief supervisor, who assisted in coordinating District efforts at the various LAPD command posts; and radio dispatcher Irvy Gibbons.

On the personal side, however, 16 operators—12 from Division 15 and four from Division 8—were granted time off to be with their families and homes in case they had to fight the fire. Although no damage has been reported by the operators, several had pretty close calls.

Operator Florence Gafford, who lives in Lakeview Terrace, had to evacuate her house and horses with the help of David Collins, Division 15 dispatcher. Division 8 operator Harold Richardson, who lives in Tujunga, reports that the fire came within 250 feet of his home, and Division 15 operator John Kirkham, also of Tujunga, thought it best to evacuate his family on the night of November 23.

Interview With

William H. Weaver

William H. Weaver, RTD's new Director of Safety, sees his job as "being responsible for the occupational health and safety of all employees of the District," and adds: "I'm formulating immediate goals to eliminate or lessen accidents, and I intend to work in complete cooperation with the special agents and the scheduling, operations and maintenance departments."

Weaver, a native of Lamar County, Texas, came to the District after a career as a project safety officer in the Air Force. Before retiring from the service, he was industrial project safety officer at the aerospace inspection and safety center at Norton Air Force Base.

Weaver holds an associate degree in business management from San Bernardino Community College and a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois State University. He is currently enrolled in the master's degree program at Pepperdine University.

While in the Air Force, Weaver was stationed all over the United States and overseas in the Philippines, Guam, Midway, Johnson's Island and Okinawa. Weaver



now resides in San Bernardino with his wife, Charleen, and two of their three children.

Since assuming his post last August, Weaver has worked hard at getting acquainted with the District.

"I've been at early morning pull-outs quite frequently and talked with hundreds of operators. I've ridden lines and buses to see what operators are faced with in order to get to know their working environments and to identify the major problem areas which produce accidents and injuries."

Weaver concludes: "A successful program has to be based on total involvement of management, supervisors and employees at every level."

RTD Operators Featured In New Training Film



Several RTD personnel played a part they know well—that of RTD riders. Portraying passengers waiting to board a bus are, from the left, Debbie McPherson, secretary; Bill Owens, asst. customer information representative; and Henry Ross, customer information representative.

RTD operators and operator trainees will soon be seeing a new film in their passenger relations training sessions. The film is now in the "post production" stages and is being readied for showing in the near future.

The film is the work of RTD's Director of Training, Joann Bowman, and the Training Committee, composed of William Packard, Chief Instructor; Richard Kelso, Acting Chief Special Agent; Jeff Diehl, Superintendent of Transportation Services; and Don Cornish, labor relations representative. The production supervisor for the film was Richard Barrett, chief writer in the Department of Marketing and Communications. The film also features five RTD operators in "starring roles" and other District personnel as "extras."

The half-hour film is in two segments. The first is a panel discussion of the security back up systems available to operators. The panel members consist of Kelso, Diehl and Cornish; two bus operators and two officers from the L.A.P.D. The second sequence recreates three scenes of real-life problems that operators are faced with frequently, including non-paying passengers, elderly riders and food on the bus.

In this second part, professional actors play the parts of the troublesome passengers, while the operators portray a

part they know well—that of a bus driver. The "extras" play the RTD passengers in the three scenes.

The objective of the dramatic scenes, which visually demonstrate problem situations, is to motivate and involve the operators in developing their own solutions. Through observation and discussion, the operators will be able to determine the best possible solutions to similar problems caused by some passengers.

According to Barrett, the production supervisor, "We auditioned more than 100 professional actors, testing them for their improvisational skills. Our objective in selecting actors with these skills was to achieve a certain spontaneity. We also felt that if we put words in the mouths of the operators, it would inhibit their natural reactions and responses to the actors playing the role of problem passengers. We wanted the operators to respond in a realistic manner."

He adds, "The operators were as good as the actors in their unrehearsed actions and dialogues."

The two operators in the panel discussion were Richard Lopez and Paul Ferraro of Division 7. The three operators in the second sequence were Leo Knox, Willie Langley and James Madden, all from Division 8.

District Employees Eligible For Deferred Compensation Plan

Ed. Note: The following article, from Mel Marquardt, pension investment administrator for the District, explains how RTD employees can participate in the deferred compensation plan, for which employees will be eligible to enroll in this December.

Dear fellow employee:

As a District employee you are provided with the opportunity of becoming a participant in the Employees' Deferred Compensation Plan. This plan makes it possible for you to set aside a portion of your pay now and not pay income tax on this amount until received by you upon retirement or leaving District employment. Federal or State withholding taxes will not be withheld on deferred pay, thereby reducing income taxes during your working years. When this deferred pay is received - normally during retirement years - your tax rate should be lower. The minimum amount that can be deferred is \$15 per payday, with the maximum deduction not to exceed 90% of your pay.

The cost for administering the plan is 74

cents per month, which is deducted from the amount deferred.

Deferred pay will be invested into one or more of the following options:

1. Short-term money instruments backed by the Federal government such as bank inactive deposits and U.S. government securities.
2. A fixed or variable annuity with a large national life insurance company.
3. No-load mutual funds.

Records of deferred pay and gains or losses on investments will be maintained in individual employee accounts.

Enrollment into the plan is open only during December of each year. Also, during December, current plan participants may increase or decrease their deferred amounts or change the way in which funds are invested.

Information on the plan will soon be mailed to all employees' home addresses. Meetings will also be held at most District work locations to explain the plan in greater detail. Notices of the meetings will be posted on District bulletin boards.



In between takes, Richard Barrett, chief writer and production supervisor for the District's new training film, surveys the "set." The second segment was filmed in front of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Beverly Kitchel Wins Information Operator Award



Beverly At Work

Beverly Kitchel, who was awarded October's Information Operator of the Month Award, believes in using the Golden Rule in her work as a District information operator: "I treat people on the phone the way I like to be treated on the phone," she explains.

Beverly, who has been with the District for four years, lives in Downey with her husband, James and eight-month old daughter, Jennifer Erin.

Beverly enjoys her work at the District. "I like the people I work with. The pay is good

and the benefits are great. I also like the fact that information operators get a choice of hours, a choice you don't usually have in other jobs. I've worked all the shifts, but the day shift, from 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., is the best one for me right now." She explains: "I can pick up my little girl at 3 p.m. and spend the rest of the day with her."

When not working or devoting herself to her family, Beverly enjoys collecting antiques for the home that she and her husband are planning to buy.

Nick Bayerle Chosen Operator Of The Month

40 Years of Good Driving

Nick Bayerle, who was selected as October's Operator of the Month, is a 40-year veteran with the District and its predecessor agencies.

Nick, who holds a 23-year safety award, started as a conductor for Pacific Electric out of Division 3-10, and worked at the Glendale, Subway Terminal and West Hollywood divisions before coming to Division 8 in 1962.

Nick and his wife, Ebba, live in Saugus, and have two children and seven grandchildren.

As of January, 1976, Nick will retire and says that he is looking forward to retirement. Nick plans to work around the house and to go travelling. He will also have more time to spend at his hobbies which include gardening and music. Nick sings and plays a variety of instruments including the guitar, banjo, trombone and trumpet.



Nicholas C. Bayerle

Commenting on his long career, Nick says that "service today has improved greatly over the past 40 years." He also adds that he misses the streetcars. "I spent 18 years on them, and the rails become a part of you."

Moving Up

Name	Div/Dept.	From/To	Date
Barron, Jeffrey R.	7300	Junior Stock Clerk To Stock Clerk	11/24/75
Boehr, Bob E.	7300	Stock Clerk To Truck Driver Clerk	11/17/75
County, Tiny	3110	Messenger Clerk To Janitor	11/10/75
Farris, Carroll W.	7300	Truck Driver Clerk To Stock Clerk	11/17/75
Gamboa, Oscar C.	7300	Shipping Clerk To Storekeeper	11/11/75
Holman, John F.	7100	Secretary II To Asst. Accounts Payable Supervisor	11/24/75
Howard, John	7300	Truck Driver Clerk To Junior Stock Clerk	11/24/75
Janowick, Leo M.	7300	Junior Stock Clerk To Typist Clerk	11/3/75
Kovach, William A.	7300	Stock Clerk To Shipping Clerk	11/11/75
Kuykendall, Rex O.	3314	Mechanic "B" To Mechanic "A"	11/23/75
Miller, Andrew	3314	Mechanic "B" To Mechanic "A"	11/23/75
Morris, Richard B.	9500	Draftsman II To Engineering Draftsman	11/10/75
Newman, Maria	3110	Janitor To Messenger Clerk	11/11/75
Nobuyuki, Takanori K.	3307	Mechanic "B" To Mechanic "A"	11/16/75
Packard, Mary C.	3399	Typist Clerk To Stenographer	11/24/75
Stoddard, Milo E.	3314	Mechanic "B" To Mechanic "A"	11/23/75
Villicana, Pablo P.	7300	Junior Stock Clerk To Truck Driver Clerk	11/17/75
Widman, George E.	3500	Operator To Schedule Analyst	11/16/75
Williams, Joe N.	3306	Schedule Checker To Utility A	11/13/75

Retired

Name	Div./Dept.	Classification	Date
Schumacher, Harlan Walter	3314	Mechanic "A" Leadman	7/26/57 - 11/8/75
Tedrow, Leland E.	3207	Division Dispatcher	7/11/36 - 11/18/75

Caught In The Act

Keeping the District rolling is a job that employs 6,440 people full time in a wide variety of job categories and class-

ifications. Headway's roving reporter recently caught several employees "in the act" on their jobs around the District.

In Memoriam

Name	Classification	Date
Crabill, Robert A.	Former Operator 3218 (Ret)	11/25/75
Jaynes, Bernard	Former Operator 3211 (Ret)	11/5/75
Mann, Robert D.	Chief Special Agent	11/28/75



Renato Medina, a Mechanic "B" at Division 2, repairs the lower skirt panelling on a coach.



Ted Powell, a Utility "A" at Division 5, spray paints the rim of a coach.



Gary Ward, a Utility "A" at Division 7, adjusts a mirror so that it won't get caught in the brushes when the coach goes through the bus washer.



Looking up from installing a fuel tank at Division 7 are three members of the building and grounds section. From left are John Markles and Richard Kovach, both Laborers "A"; and Warren Hulbert, Maintainer "B".



Eveline Portier, a Utility "B" at Division 3, seems dwarfed by the 5100 coach she is cleaning.



GIFTS, CAKE AND BEST WISHES—When longtime division dispatcher Leland E. Tedrow retired from the District after 39 years of service, he was given a farewell party at Division 7 where he had worked for the last 13 years.

Leland started his career as a conductor out of Division 5 and later became a cash clerk at the Division. In 1954 he moved to Division 8 as a cash clerk and returned six years later to Division 5 as a division clerk.

On his last day, Leland was presented with several gifts, including a gold pen and pencil set. Helping him to celebrate the occasion was his wife, Bernice.

Also on hand, clockwise from left: Wes McCarns, Division 2 manager, (partially obscured from view); Paul Mahoney asst. division 7 manager and Gus Lopez, Division 6 manager. Standing behind Leland is George Erhardt, retired asst. division manager. On Leland's left is J. J. McCullough, Division 5 manager and Wanda Schmidt, Division 12 steno.



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS—RTD Directors Victor M. Carter (left), and George Takei (center), discuss a point with General Manager Jack Gilstrap during a recent Board meeting.

Hesses Celebrate 20th Wedding Anniversary

Emery "Red" Hess and his wife, Maria Carmen, recently celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary and on hand to help them celebrate the event were their five children and two grandchildren. Red, a ticket clerk at the Convention

Center, started with the District in 1966 as an operator. Maria Carmen has recently started working for the District in Department 3100. The Hesses, who reside in Monterey Park, hope to make RTD their "home away from home."

5th Grader Bethany Thome Is An "Expert" On The RTD

RTD buses are something that 10-year old Bethany Thome knows about. Her dad, Carl B. Thome, is a Division 9 operator and her mom, Geraldine, is an information operator. So when Bethany's fifth grade teacher at Mulhall School in El Monte asked her fifth and sixth grade classes to draw a picture of the RTD, Bethany drew such a good picture, that her teacher selected it as one of the six best and sent the six pictures off to the District. The pictures are now displayed on the fifth floor at 1060 So. Broadway.



Bethany comes from an "RTD" family. Her aunt, Michele Smoot Haug, is an asst. customer information representative. Her uncle, David Huey, is an operator at Division 9 and her grandfather, the late Vincent Smoot, retired in 1966 as an operator out of Division 1.

Bethany's proud mom describes her as an all-around type of girl who is taking ballet lessons and is also on the El Monte Parks and Recreation Drill Team.

"Danny Gutierrez And Olivia Martinez Wed

Division 10 Operator, Jose "Danny" Gutierrez, and Olivia Martinez, information operator, became another RTD family when they exchanged wedding vows in Las Vegas on Sunday, November 23. Danny has been an operator since 1968, and Olivia has been with the District since 1973.

"Best Wishes" from the District to the new Mr. and Mrs. Gutierrez, who will make their home in Pico Rivera.

**GIVE TO THE 1975 A.I.D. CAMPAIGN
DECEMBER 3 - 16
"ONE GIFT FOR ALL"**

Operator Villard and Wife Have New Baby Girl

Division 9 Operator Earl E. Villard and his wife, Deborah, are the proud parents of a new baby girl, Kimberly, who was born August 21.

The Villards already have two boys: James, 5, and Timothy, 1 1/2 years. The Villard family lives in Covina.

Jack Storey Gets Married

Jack Storey, extra-assistant division manager at Division 8, recently married the former Ruth Anderson of Vancouver, Canada, on November 26 in Las Vegas.

The couple will reside in Van Nuys.



SHARING A LAUGH—Rosie Velasquez, an information operator, was feted with a baby shower by her fellow information operators. There was cake, punch and lots of laughs in addition to gifts and best wishes for Rosie.

Rosie, who has been with the District since 1964, plans to return to work after having her baby, her third child.

At far left is Mary Helen Earles, extra-supervisor. Standing next to Rosie, clockwise, are information operators Carmen Trautman; Marietta Le Breton; Virginia Escobar; Mike Holahan; Peggy Wahl; and Gary Ouye.

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