



# HEADWAY



Southern California Rapid Transit District

Volume 2 Number 12 Dec. 19, 1975

## Operator Suggestions Result In New Operating Rules

Operator suggestions arising from employee rap sessions have resulted in several new rules which went into effect on December 1, giving operators more leeway and responsibility in operating their coaches.

### Unrestricted Use Of Freeway Lanes

The first change involves the unrestricted use of freeway lanes. Previously operators were limited to the third and fourth lanes. Now they will be able to exercise their own best judgement as to which lane to use depending on road and visibility conditions, traffic density, and flow in freeway operations. However, operators are urged to be extremely cautious in the use of the number one lane.

Also, under no circumstances should operators exceed the posted speed limit. In the event that an operator is obviously obstructing the flow of traffic in the number one lane, despite the fact he is travelling at the posted speed, he should move from that lane after having properly signalled, and it is safe to do so.

### Rule 204 MC b Suspended

The second change involves the temporary suspension for a 60-day period of Transportation Department Rule 204 MC b, which prohibits an operator from making a right turn on a red traffic signal. The rule will be suspended in favor of California Vehicle Code Section 21453 which states that: "the driver of a vehicle which is stopped as close as practicable at the entrance to the intersection in obedience to a red or stop signal, may make a right turn but shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic proceedings as directed by the signal at said intersection, except that local authorities may by ordinance prohibit any such right turn against a red or "stop" signal at any intersection, which ordinance shall be effective when a sign is erected at such intersection giving notice thereof."

This suspension was taken at the specific request of operators and a close record will be kept of any accidents and incidents appearing to result. The sixty (60) day period will provide data on which to base a decision to either permanently suspend or to reinstate Rule 204 MC b.

### Trainroom Rules Modified

The third rule concerns trainroom activities and as of the first of this month, domino playing, formerly restricted to certain hours, will be permitted at all hours in the trainroom for those operators who are on a normal work day.

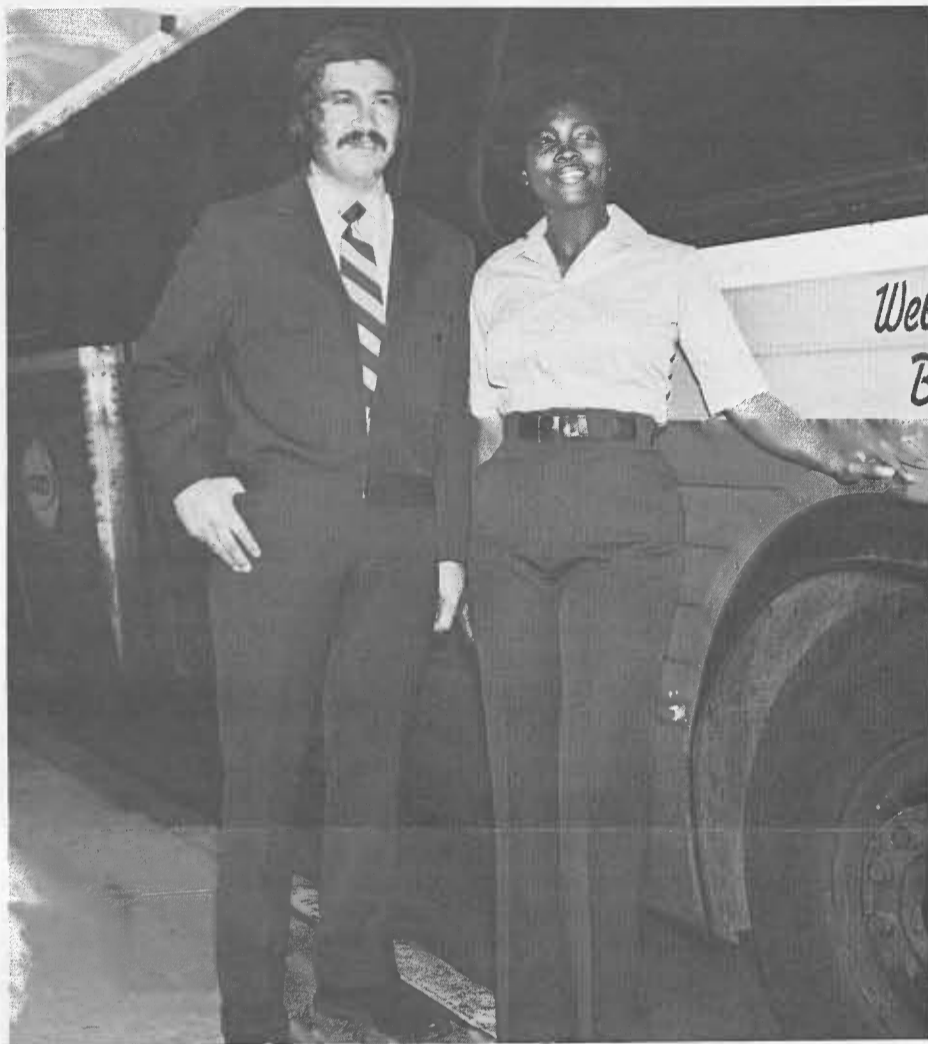
John Walsh, General Superintendent of Transportation, stated: "We are certain that the operators will appreciate this relaxation of the hours of playing dominos and will not abuse it."

Speaking of the rule changes, Walsh adds:

"These changes came of the rap sessions. Operator response to the rap sessions has just been tremendous. We've made literally hundreds of changes

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## New Operator Uniforms Approved



*SPIFFY—Operator Maudell Hudson and Robert Sotelo model the new operator uniforms. The jacket and trousers will be dark brown. Shirts or blouses will come in five different colors, and operators will be able to wear any or all of the colors.*

Individuality will be the hallmark of the new bus operator uniforms, which have finally been approved by both the SCRTD and the UTU.

The new uniforms will be dark brown, and with the new uniforms, operators will be able to select shirts or blouses from any or all of five colors: tan, yellow, gold, light blue and orange.

In choosing the dark brown color for the uniforms, the District and UTU were adhering to the choice of the operators. During the past several months, the different colors had been displayed in Division trainrooms and operators were informally polled as to their choices. Operators chose from three different colors and two combinations: dark green; officer's tan; dark brown; a combination of a light jacket and dark pants and dark jacket with light pants.

The groundwork for the new uniforms was developed by the RTD/UTU Uniform Selection Committee, composed of Jack Gerhardt, Transportation Projects Development Administrator, William Packard, Chief Instructor and Ben McKeon and James Williams, UTU Local Chairmen.

### Other Transit Properties Surveyed

One of the first things the committee did was to survey 12 transit properties to see what they had in the way of operator uniforms.

From the survey and from what was available from manufacturers, the committee decided that the dark brown, 16 oz. "elastique", a blend of dacron and wool, gave the greatest amount of comfort and durability, according to Gerhardt, who ex-

plains: "We found the doubleknits to be undesirable because of snagging and the textured polyester and whip cord were found to be too hot for Southern California's climate."

### Western Style Pockets And Flares

The jackets of the new uniforms will be a modified Eisenhower type, similar to the old uniforms, but the trousers, which will have the western style pockets, will be available in 19 to 21 inch flares, depending on the length of the trousers. The western style pockets and the flared trousers were chosen at the request of the operators.

The dacron-cotton permanent press shirts and blouses will be sports-styled and will have convertible collars. There will also be a dark brown lamb's wool cardigan sweater available with a zippered front and pockets.

Accessories will consist of a black belt and black shoes, or a brown belt with brown, oxblood or cordovan colored shoes. Socks will be black or brown and women operators will have the choice of wearing hose with their uniforms.

Name tags will be optional, as will caps and ties. However, all uniform jackets and shirts will have the operator's badge number and RTD emblem sewn on the right sleeve. The wearing of the shirt badge will be discontinued.

### Uniforms Already On Order

Operators will be able to purchase the new uniforms as soon as they arrive at the retail outlets. There will be no formal

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## Employee Recreation Program Planned

### Domino Tournament Planned As First Event

Plans are currently underway to establish a District-wide Employee Recreation Program for the benefit of all RTD employees and their families.

The program will sponsor a wide variety of activities including sports, social events, crafts, etc.

The program is being formulated through the Department of Employee Relations, and will be administered by Bill Weimer, Special Projects Manager for Employee Relations, and Michael Pearce, Personnel Analyst.

Questionnaires will be mailed to all District employees to determine what activities should be offered. The questionnaire will also determine who is interested in serving on an advisory committee and who will be willing to head up a particular activity.

Kicking off the recreational program will be a system-wide domino doubles tournament complete with local eliminations and a final play off to determine the District champs. Prizes will be given to the local champs from each work location. District play off runners up will receive individual trophies with the District champs receiving a perpetual trophy for display at their work locations.

Complete details of the tournament and applications for signing up will be posted in all work locations early in January.

Plans are also underway to establish a softball league which will culminate in an interdepartmental tournament.

Watch each edition of Headway for information about the Employee Recreation Program and how you can get involved.

HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR

from  
The Staff  
of RTD

# Marvin Holen: RTD's New Director

When Marvin Holen became a RTD Director a few months ago, one of the first things he did was to buy an RTD bus pass. In fact, he bought two bus passes: one for himself and one for a friend to come along as he rode unnoticed, on RTD buses around the District.

Holen simply explains: "I wanted to get an idea of how it felt to ride a bus."

So far, Holen has ridden mainly in the Central City, but he says he bought a two-zone pass for December, and intends to ride as many different lines as he can. "I want to share what everyone else experiences when they ride our buses."

Holen nominated for appointment to the Board by 5th District Supervisor Edmund Edelman and takes the place of long-time Board Director A. J. Eyraud. Holen says: "Supervisor Edelman appointed me because he knows of my interest in public service. As for transportation, I had accumulated the usual prejudices of the general public."

After two months on the Board, Holen now says: "I learned that the simple surface solutions that come to mind after a casual reading of a newspaper article are not quite so easy to implement and that the issues are greatly more complex than the average citizen realizes."

Holen didn't have any particular bias about public transportation before becoming a board member, but he says that he has always been dedicated to Southern California having a viable public transportation system "which will meet more than the minimal level of service and which will be convenient, comfortable and inexpensive."

He goes on to explain:

"Rapid transit is a necessary public service in the same mode as providing utilities, highways, police and fire protection and other aspects of needful community services."

Holen says that the criteria he will use to judge new and exiting services will be from the standpoint of fulfilling a general public need, within the framework of financial responsibility."

A strong advocate of the mini bus system, Holen is glad that he is only "one mini bus stop" away from his office in the Occidental Towers to the new Transit Building at 425 So. Main St.

Holen, a native of Los Angeles, holds a law degree from UCLA and is a partner in the law firm of Van Petten and Holen which specializes in corporate law.

Holen and his wife, Marta, reside in the Wilshire District, and enjoy attending various cultural events in Los Angeles. Holen is also a Bruin's basketball and foot-

## Divisions 3-10; 15; 7 And 6 Get New Transportation Managers

Several reassignments and promotions among the rank of Division Transportation Managers were announced by the Transportation Department.

As of December 14, former Division 15 Transportation Manager L. E. Edmondson became the new Manager at Division 3-10, while G. C. Michaels, formerly at Division 3-10, is now the Division Transportation Manager at Division 6.

G. Lopez, former Division 6 Transportation Manager now becomes Division 7 Transportation Manager and E. C. Giaquinto becomes the new Manager of Division 15.

B. Geist, Asst. Division Transportation Manager of Division 5, has been promoted to Asst. Division Transportation Manager/Extra-Division Transportation Manager; G. D. Woods was made Assistant Transportation Manager at Division 8 and J. E. Storey is now Relief Assistant Division Transportation Manager.



During a recent tour of District facilities, Holen, left, talks with Sam Black, Chief of Bus Engineering Facilities; George Heinle, Manager of Operations and General Manager Jack R. Gilstrap, in the west parking lot of the El Monte Terminal.

Of the Busway, Holen says: "I was very much impressed with the Busway, and adds: "We have to open our imagination to all possibilities for public transit which will serve the need and which will be environmentally sound and appealing."

The tour also included visiting Divisions 3-10 and 9.

ball fan. He is on the Board of Trustees of the California Museum Foundation which oversees the Museum of Science and Industry, the Space Museum and the Museum of the Sea; and is also a member of the Board of Trustees of California Blue Shield. He is former captain in the United States Marine Corps. Reserve and served

as an infantry officer with the 1st Marine Division in Korea.

Holen finds that being a board member takes up "an enormous amount of time, far more than I anticipated. However, the challenge presented by such a crucial public issue makes the time and effort spent both worthwhile and necessary."



TREE-TRIMMING TIME—RTD employees in the old Transit Building help touch up RTD's Christmas tree.

In front are: Francene Avanzino, Secretary II in Administration; Marie Newman (kneeling) Mail Room Messenger Clerk and Diane Guastafarro, Secretary II in Planning.

On Francene's left is Justin Bell, Field Representative and next to Justin is James Wells, mail room messenger clerk. On the other side of the tree is Nadine Beffa, Secretary III to George McDonald, Manager of Advance Planning and Marketing. On Nadine's right is Joy Kennedy, Employment Office interviewer.

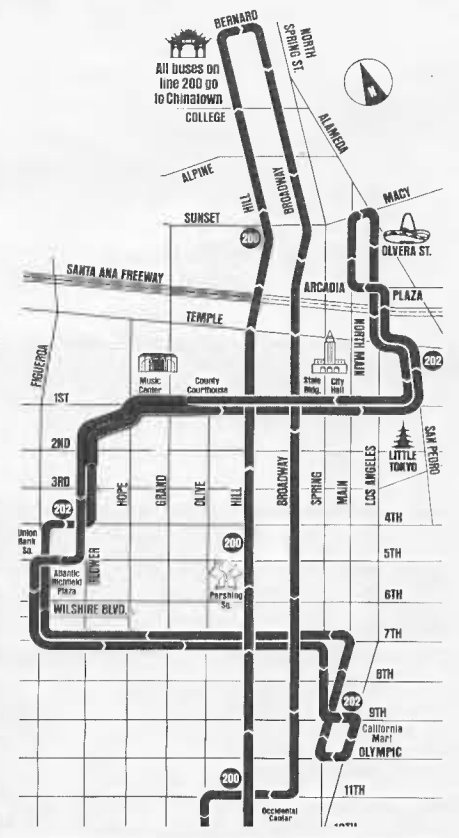
## Mini Bus Service Expanded New Route, Line 202, Added

Mini bus service in downtown Los Angeles doubled on December 15, when 20 new mini buses went into operation on a new mini bus route. The new buses now bring the total of mini buses serving the Central Business District to 40.

The new route, Line 202, will provide service every four minutes from 7 AM to 7 PM, Monday through Friday. On Saturday, four minute service will be provided from 9 AM to 4 PM.

Line 202 begins on Main and Olympic, runs up Main to Seventh Street, turns left on Seventh Street to Figueroa and goes down Figueroa to Third Street. On Third Street, the route turns right into Flower and travels north on Hope Street, then east on First Street to San Pedro Street. From San Pedro Street, the route goes north to Olvera Street via Temple and Los Angeles Streets, through the Civic Center and Little Tokyo.

Line 200 will be shortened to run up Hill Street from 12th Street and the Occidental Center, then back to the Occidental Center via Broadway. A free transfer will be issued to provide connections between the two mini bus routes.



Uniforms Continued from Page 1  
changeover date, but a changeover deadline will be announced later.

"It is hoped that, barring unforeseen delays, the uniforms will begin arriving at the uniform outlets in April," said Gerhardt.

Commenting on the new uniforms, George Heinle, Manager of Operations, said, "We wanted the operators to have the opportunity of expressing their individuality through the selection of shirt colors, while still being identified as members of the RTD organization."

Suggestions Continued from Page 1

in individual lines, procedures, service changes, and even in the layout of our trainrooms in the division reconstruction plans. All these changes were based on ideas and suggestions of the operators, and they only make good sense when you have the best operators in the business."

The second round of rap sessions will begin shortly after Christmas.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

## Credit Union Wins Thrift Award

Above Average  
Rate-of-Growth Cited

The Transit District Employees Federal Credit Union has earned a National Credit Union (NCUA) Thrift Honor Award for its success in stimulating savings among small savers.

The credit union attained a monthly growth rate of 1.96 per cent in accounts under \$20,000. According to NCUA Region IV Director, Edward T. Bernhoft, in San Francisco, this rate-of-growth is well above the average of federal credit unions of similar size.

As of September 30, the Credit Union had 4,579 members with a total savings of \$3,280,251. The Credit Union is located to the right of the third-floor elevators in the new Transit Building at 425 So. Main Street.

President of the credit union, which was chartered in 1938, is Division 8 Manager Ken E. Parker. Mrs. Ruth Collins is treasurer and manager.

The National Credit Union Administration conducts the Thrift Honor Award Program to provide an incentive for federal credit unions to encourage their members with accounts under \$20,000 to include regular savings as part of their family financial management plans.

## Even Big Kids Believe In Santa!



Lending support for the District's Toys for Tots campaign are, from left: Andi McFall, management trainee; Frank Barnes, Deputy Administrator for Operations; Jack Walsh, General Supt. of Transportation; Frank Nelson, associate electrical engineer; Allan Styffe, staff analyst; Ted Brennen, transportation engineer; George Heinle, Manager of Operations (Santa Claus); Jack Gerhardt, Transportation Proj. Development Administrator; Ralph Wilson, sr. staff assistant; Anita Allen, general services manager; Bill Bennett, operations analyst; George Powell, General Supt. of Maintenance and Equipment; Frank Kirshner, equipment foreman; Frank Larson, Safety Supervisor; and (hidden) Dick Kelso, Acting Chief Special Agent.

### A Message To All RTD Operating Divisions From The Manager Of Operations

The coming of Christmas and its message of "Peace on Earth, Goodwill Towards Men" has always held a special significance for me. It is a time when people of all faiths and persuasions seem to put aside their differences. It is a time of rebirth, the passing of the old and the coming of the New Year. And while Christmas means something different to each individual, it brings our society together as at no other time of the year.

For those of us who have come face to face with the public on a daily basis, I

know that Christmastime is a mixed blessing. The buses are more crowded; passengers are loaded with packages and many are in a hurry to get where they are going since there never seems to be enough time to get things done before Christmas.

On the other hand, the Christmas season offers us a special opportunity to show our passengers that we appreciate their patronage. It offers us an opportunity to say with a friendly courteous manner, "We wish you a Merry Christmas and hope you'll continue to ride with us throughout the New Year."

The Christmas season also offers all of us in the RTD family an opportunity to reach out in the spirit of goodwill and join together in a renewed effort toward

*Continued on Page 4*

## RTD's First Woman Service Director Loves Her Job

If a contest were held to find out which employee enjoyed their job the most at the District, no doubt one of the strongest contenders would be 27-year old Barbara Leos Service.

Barbara has been working for the District for five years now, and recently became RTD's first woman service director after working as an information operator and ticket clerk.

Barbara says of her new job:

"It's terrific. I'm thrilled about being a Service Director. It's more of a challenge than anything I've done before." She adds that: "I have a lot more freedom and variety as well as more authority, but I really enjoy the responsibility."

As one of the 12 service directors for RTD, Barbara works in both the Los Angeles Greyhound Terminal and the Maple Street Lot. She assigns berths to the buses as they pull into the terminal, and assures they leave on time, as well as seeing that everything runs smoothly. Outside in the Maple Street Lot, she directs traffic for buses coming from Pasadena, Glendora, El Monte, Wilshire and Temple City and assigns parking spaces and layover berths.

Barbara, who got married last November, met her husband, Michael, when she was a ticket clerk at the El Monte Terminal where Michael was a ticket clerk for Greyhound. He now works as a supervisor for Continental Trailways.



Barbara says: "My husband is proud of my job and encourages me. I work the relief shift and have a hectic schedule, but Michael doesn't mind because he has a crazy schedule himself."

## Moving Up

Name	From/To	Date
Allan, Darrell J.	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	11/28/75
Bass, J. W.	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	12/3/75
Basulto, Fernando	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	12/4/75
Dickerson, Charles M.	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	12/2/75
Friedmann, Irma R.	Secretary II To Service Analyst	12/8/75
Haynes, Ronald E.	Operator To Utility "A"	11/24/75
Hightower, Dan L.	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	12/6/75
Hueson Jr., Ed	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	12/1/75
Johnson, Horace L.	Operator To Same	11/30/75
Jones, Dormin D.	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	12/5/75
McLemore, Thomas L.	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	11/29/75
Robles, Robert A.	Mechanic "B" (Rel. Leadman) To Mechanic "A" Leadman	11/23/75
Scoggins, James B.	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	11/30/75
Warde, Charles J.	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	12/8/75
Vasconcellos, John W.	Operator To Operator-Extra Division Dispatcher	12/7/75

## Retired

Name	Classification	Date
Denton, Dale Myron	Operator	5/26/39 - 12/1/75
Finders, Lawrence Richard	Operator	11/26/45 - 11/27/75
Searls, Arthur Leroy	Operator	1/25/46 - 12/3/75
Meaney, Francis Patrick	Former Operator	2/9/63 - 12/7/75

## In Memoriam

Name	Classification	Date
Brinker, Berton B.	Former Operator 3212 (Ret)	11/26/75
Fults, James R.	Former Mechanic "A" Leadman 3310 (Ret)	11/21/75
Schemm, Herman M.	Former Operator 3209 (Ret)	11/29/75
Tieman, Alvin C.	Former Division Manager 3206 (Ret)	11/22/75
Walters, Richard Joseph	Former Trafficman 6201 Trans. to Ind. Leave 6-1-75	12/3/75

## Remember! Headway Is Your Newspaper

Have a problem?  
Want To Make A Suggestion?  
Call The Employee Hotline  
749-6977 Ext 310



Longtime Division 6 Operator Arthur L. Searls, who retired in December after 29 years of service with the District and its predecessor agencies, receives a scroll signed by members of the executive staff and Division 6 operators, from B. Geist, who was acting as assistant manager of Division 6 that day.

The scroll and a check were presented to Searls during a party at the Division on his last day at Division 6.

Searls started in 1946 and except for a few months in 1959 spent his long career working out of Division 6.

Seals, who resides in Culver City with his wife, Lorraine, plans to go to Europe in the near future, and then renew old friendships he has made at the District during his 29 years. He will also have more time to devote to his hobby of collecting miniature Marklain trains. He has several models which date back to 1900.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Janet Wentz, typist clerk in the Personnel Department, (left), who was feted with a punch "toast" on her birthday, December 4, by her co-workers in the Personnel Department.

Standing with Janet is Jean Kennington, pension and insurance clerk. In back of Janet is Marion Schneider, personnel technician, and in back of Marion is Ralph Carapia, personnel analyst. Next to Ralph is Rose Showers, personnel office manager and Ruth Manus, secretary II. Standing directly in back of Jean is Fannie Jarvis, personnel technician.

## 17-Year Old Tony Hodges Is A "Winner"

Division 7 Operator Horace Hodges has a talented athlete in his family. His son, 17-year old Tony, is the high scorer for Cathedral High School's basketball team, and recently scored 33 points against Harvard School to win the opening game of the Santa Monica Invitational Tournament.

Tony, who is also an honor role student, is being scouted by several colleges and universities, including Harvard, UC Berkeley, USC and the University of Hawaii. Hodges reports that representatives from the schools have been over to the Hodges' residence to talk to Tony and his family.

In addition to playing basketball, Tony has also served as a counselor at the basketball summer camp run by Laker's Coach Bill Sharman.

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better understanding, better communications and better cooperation in our effort to provide Los Angeles with the best public transportation system anywhere.

On a personal note, I wish that I could personally greet and extend my best wishes to all RTD employees, and while I shall be visiting all of our operating divisions during the pre-Christmas weeks, time and the demands of our work schedules precludes a face to face meeting with all.

I should therefore like to take this opportunity to wish all of my fellow employees and their families a most Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year."

George W. Heinle  
Manager of Operations

## Making Headway

Reason Earns Community College Instructor Credentials

Bill Reason, RTD's audio visual coordinator, has received his community college instructor credentials from Long Beach State College and is now qualified to teach at the community college level in the areas of "Communications Services and Related Technologies including Printing; Art and Design, including Photography."

Reason, a seven-year veteran with the District, earned his credentials while working full time at the District.

Operator Robert Garrett And Wife Have New Baby Girl

Division 2 Operator Robert Garrett and his wife, Frances, are proud to announce the arrival of their baby girl, Jennifer Lenee, who was born on November 28 and weighed in at 7 lbs. 3 ozs.

Congratulations to the Garretts from RTD.

Division 8 Reports Two Weddings

Division 8 operators report two weddings for the month of November. Operator James Martin wed the former Cynthia Jarman on Tuesday, November 18, in Granada Hills. The new Mr. and Mrs. James Martin will reside in Van Nuys.

Weddings Bells also rang for Division 8 Operator Dave Reddie on Saturday, November 22 when he wed Sylvia Bentley in Ohio. The newlyweds will also live in Van Nuys.

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**



WEDDING BELLS—The former Marietta Le Breton, center, receives the congratulations of her fellow information operators at a surprise wedding shower given just a few days before she became Mrs. Robert Weaver.

Pictured from left, are: Wayne Asher; Mary-Helen Earls, extra-supervisor; Jere Briggs and Jeffrey Tome.

## HEADWAY

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