



HEADWAY



Southern California Rapid Transit District

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First Service Award Pins Presented

All District employees with 10 or more years of service with the District and its predecessor agencies were recently honored at RTD's first service awards ceremonies.

The awards were made at a series of ceremonies throughout the entire District at all divisions, operating facilities and at Headquarters building.

At the ceremonies, employees were presented with gold pins in the shape of bus stop signs with gem chips denoting the higher years of service.

The pins were awarded in increments of 5 years, and a 24 year veteran, for example, received a 20 year pin. Next year, however, during the second annual service awards presentation, he will get a 25 year pin.

Almost 1800 employees received the pins along with the sincere congratulations from their supervisors, department heads and managers for truly a "job well done."

Adelina Gregory Leaves Board

Adelina Gregory, the first woman to serve on the 11-member RTD Board of Directors recently ended her term as a Director.



Mrs. Gregory was appointed to the Board in 1973 by the City Selection Committee to represent the residents of the San Gabriel Valley and during her tenure was instrumental in creating major bus service improvements including the successful San Gabriel Valley transit improvement program which was implemented last April.

As a Director, Mrs. Gregory served as chairperson of the Personnel Committee and was a member of the Executive and Finance Committees. In addition, she was a member of the American Public Transit Association's (APTA) Minority Affairs Committee.

Mrs. Gregory was presented with a citation from the RTD Board commending her exemplary service, and which also noted that she had "untiringly dedicated her full efforts to advancing public transportation at both the local and national levels."

Mrs. Gregory, who is actively involved in civic affairs, was elected to the Baldwin Park City Council in 1964, and was re-elected in 1968 and 1972. For a short time in 1971, she served as the mayor of Baldwin Park.

Mrs. Gregory, who resides in Baldwin Park with her husband, Francis, will continue her involvement in the San Gabriel Valley civic affairs, including the League of Women Voters.



Clement DuPre, second from left, of the transportation department and Ted Gaul, second from right, transportation planning analyst, received service award pins for 40 years, and are congratulated by John S. Wilkens, Manager of Employee Relations, left, and George W. Heinle, Manager of Operations.



Maintenance Manager Frank Abrosion gives Benjamin Mathis, Utility "A" at Division 2, his 40 year pin.



Headquarters personnel who received service award pins for 35 years and up of service were, clockwise, second from left, Tom V. Collins, Cashier and asst. treasurer; Hoyt Bilyeu, schedule maker; Richard Kissick, board secretary; Tom R. Brown, Asst. to General Superintendent of Transportation; Bob Wicke, Supt. of Shops and Auto Equip.; Frank Carr, controller; Pat Palacios, asst. manager of stores; Frank Czarniak, chief ticket clerk; Bud Booth, supervisor of trafficmen.

Division Managers Meet for Rap Session

The District's transportation and maintenance division managers met recently at Division 9 in El Monte with top management officials for a rap session to discuss their concerns, and to hear Manager of Operations George Heinle talk frankly about the current status of District operations and projections for the District's future.

Also representing RTD management were George Powell, General Superintendent of Maintenance and Equipment, and John Walsh, General Superintendent of Transportation, who spoke on their sides of the operations picture. After the presentations a discussion session followed, and the managers had a chance to ask questions and to offer their suggestions for District operations and procedures.

Midway through the session came a break for lunch and then the managers got down to more detailed and intense question-and-answer session which lasted until 3:30 p.m.

The managers found the day-long session informative and interesting. Said George C. Michaels, Division 6 transportation manager: "The session was much

needed and very beneficial. I liked the informality and the chance to ask questions." Division 12 transportation manager Ralph Costello added "it was a

very good meeting and very educational," while George Marsala, transportation manager of Division 1-11 remarked "It was very informal and very instructive."



The rap session provided a chance for discussion in small informal groups. Above, George Powell, General Superintendent of Maintenance and Equipment, far right, talks with Tom Tegtmeier, far left, Division 8 maintenance manager; Jack Carmichael, superintendent of maintenance divisions, (back to camera); A. C. Howard, Division 6 maintenance manager and Milton Spencer, on Powell's right, Division 18 maintenance manager.

Divisions 1-11, 2 and 3-10 Receive Service Awards

Editor's Note: In order to honor as many employees as possible who received service award pins at the recent District-wide ceremonies (there were more than 1700 pins awarded), Headway will run pictures of the presentations in several installments. Check future issues of Headway for more service award pictures.



Division 1-11 operators Thomas M. Justin, James A. Phelps, Elgin L. Burton, Tom McLendon and asst. division manager Leroy Homrighausen received pins for 30 years of service from Division manager George Marsala and Roland Krafft, superintendent of divisions.



Division 1-11 maintenance personnel Salvador Romo, C. Young, Murray Szathmary, Salvador Manriquez, and Nelson C. Buswell (not present) received 30 year pins from Jesus Martinez, maintenance manager.



Division 2 manager Wes McCarns, second from left, presented operator Frank W. Wise, Jr., and division dispatcher Ralph Shea with 35 year service pins, and division dispatcher William Chavez and operators Carl E. Reed, Louie Meloserdoff and Lyle J. Lampshire with 30 year service pins.



Division 2 maintenance manager Frank Abroson presented 30 year pins to Lorne Atwood, Romaldo Alvarado, Sylvester Hnorey, Curtis Martin, Frank Lopez, Humberto Alejandro, and Detroit Wallace.



Division 1-11 dispatchers Joseph J. Bukowski and D. R. Grantfield, and operator William W. Bradley received service award pins for 20, 25 and 25 years of service respectively.



Division 1-11 maintenance personnel Otis Beasley, Jr., Albert McKnight, and James A. Jackson, received pins for 20, 25 and 20 years of service.



Division 2 operators Leslie G. Warren, George C. Crowe, Perry Brown, Donnell Reed, Carl G. Gliottone, received 25 year pins, and Cleveland Simington and James B. Hain- ing got 20 year pins.



Division 2 maintenance personnel Paul Rodriguez, supervisor, Alex Ward, Renato Medina, Art J. Porter, Dave Biehn, Hiro Hironaka all received 15 year pins except for Ward who received a 20 year pin.



Division 3-10 operators (front row) Charles Walker, Gordon Burr, Sydney Chevin, Vincent Santomero and asst. manager James Cenderelli received pins for 20, 25, 35, 15 and 15 years of service respectively.

In the back row, operators Sherland Clark, Fred Macklin, Samuel Hawkes, Orville Hatfield received 35, 25, 35 and 10 year pins from Division manager Ed Edmondson, second from left in back row. On Edmondson's right is operator Andrew Mulsoff who received a 20 year pin.



Division 3-10 maintenance personnel (in front row), Michael Nakayama, Frank Denaro, Frank Sanchez, Bartholome Burrola, Robert Ashford, Harold McMahon and Floyd Demus received pins for 20, 25, 30, 20, 25, 25 and 20 years respectively.

In the back row, also from left to right, are Harry May, Robert Heller, Nels Hicks, Cleveland Porter and Andrew Anderson who received 30, 30, 20 and 10 year pins respectively.

Don Grayson Wins Law Degree



Don Grayson and wife, Jean, on commencement day.

Don Grayson, staff assistant in the transportation department, and a long-time District employee received his law degree recently from the University of West Los Angeles School of Law, capping four long years of hard work and study.

Don earned his degree by going to school nights while working as an extra division dispatcher throughout the District. In between, every spare moment was filled with studying.

Don credits his wife, Jean, with being a tremendous help. "She put up with a lot of inconvenience. While studying for my degree and for the state bar examination,

I didn't have the time to go anywhere — or do anything."

A native of Petaluma, Don started working for Pacific Electric in 1943 as a trainman, and then worked for 30 years as an operator before becoming an extra division dispatcher.

Don has long had an interest in law and has held several posts on jurisprudence committees in several state-wide Masonic organizations. He also served in the past as secretary-treasurer and a vice local chairman of the UTU Grievance Committee.

Moving Up

Name	Div./ Dept.	From/To	Date
Brough, Dan E.	7100	Internal Auditor To Assistant Control Accounting Supervisor	9-13-76
Jones, Paul R.	3210	Operator To Operator /Extra Division Dispatcher	8-31-76
Higbee, Robert C.	3206	Operator To Operator/Extra Division Dispatcher	8-30-76
Smith, Philip G.	3297	Operator/Extra Instructor of V.O. To Instructor of V.O.	8-29-76
Wooden, Everett C.	3215	Operator To Operator/Extra Division Dispatcher	8-28-76
Yamada, Donna L.	7200	Systems Analyst To Supervisor, Computer Operations	9-20-76

Retired

Name	Div./ Dept.	Classification	Began	Retired
Enders, John Richard	3205	Operator	4-15-42	8-31-76
Hayes, Roy Lee	3202	Operator	9-10-51	9-11-76
Galatioto, Sam Salvator	3110	Building Engineer	5-1-57	9-1-76
Kelley, Patrick Vincent	6201	Former Utility "A" Trans. to Ind. Leave 7-23-76	2-3-60	9-1-76
McKemie, Robert Earl	3305	Mechanic "A" Leadman	4-18-41	8-31-76
Welsh, Peter F.	3204	Operator	1-21-37	9-6-76
Wolken, Paul L.	3204	Operator	3-29-46	9-10-76
Fanchin, Leo	3207	Operator	10-03-45	09-22-76

In Memoriam

Name	Classification	Deceased
Brewer Jr., Willie G.	3207 Former Operator (Ret. 9-1-70)	9-4-76
Cartwright, Joseph W.	3212 Former Operator (Ret. 5-7-73)	9-7-76
Clary, Clyde B.	3212 Former Operator (Ret. 6-1-69)	9-12-76
Hernandez, Isabel	3334 Former Laborer "B" (Ret. 6-1-53)	9-2-76
Lopez, Roberto	3202 Former Operator Trans. Ind. Leave 9-19-75	9-9-76
Nickson, Robert Lee	3207 Operator	8-22-76
Obert, George E.	7300 Former Shipping Clerk (Ret. 1-1-69)	9-5-76
Rankin, Alvin C.	3215 Operator	9-13-76
Smith, Mayland B.	3321 Former Mechanic "A" (Ret. 6-1-55)	9-5-76
Hammond, Charles C.	3314 Former Mechanic "A" (Ret. 1-2-72)	9-21-76



Division 1-11 maintenance personnel Johnny DeLeon, Angel A. Lujon, John Warth and Roman Morales all received 15 year pins.



Division 2 operators Carroll W. Tinker, Dewitt Duke, Thomas E. Walls, William Payton III, Ezra Hill received 15 year pins, and Hilton Lavalas and Frank Scott got 10 year pins.



Division 1-11 operators Lionel Manuel, Eugene H. Williams, John A. Goines, Benjamin Cooper, Lazarus G. Parish got 10 year pins, and Frank Hackman received a 15 year pin.

Fashion Fair Cancelled

Fashion Fair 76 unfortunately has been cancelled (due to the recent work stoppage). At this time, no new date for the show has been set.

The Fashion Committee extends sincere thanks to the many District employees who helped get the promotion of the show off to a great start, also sincere thanks to the many interested participants. See you next Spring.

Fashion Committee

New Arrivals



Division 9 operator Dennis Feole and his wife, Marsha, are the proud parents of a set of twins, Dominic and Derrick, who were born September 3. That makes three boys for the Feoles, who with son, Dennis, Jr., 4, make their home in Covina.

Stage Appearance for Lisa Lynn



Lisa Lynn as Baby Jane

Headway is pleased to report that Division 8 operator Gene Ward's daughter, Lisa Lynn, is going full steam ahead on her career in show biz, and recently played the part of Baby Jane in the Santa Monica Theatre Guild's production of "Gypsy" at the Morgan Theatre on Pico Blvd.

Lisa appears on stage under the name of Lisa Lehman, and no doubt we'll be hearing her name quite often in the future!



ATTENTION

Anyone interested in becoming scorekeepers or umpires for the new RTD Winter Softball League please contact Bill Weimer, Ext. 6675, as soon as possible. Special training will be provided.

CB er and Operator Willie Thompson is "Shadrack"

Division 6 operator Willie Thompson is well known to his fellow bus operators as both a long-time District employee and an avid CBER.

Willie has been a citizens band radio enthusiast for eight years, long before the current CB popularity, and just recently, his own CB set was featured and pictured in an article on "How To Set Up Your Base" in the July issue of Channel 24, a popular magazine for CB buffs.

Originally, Willie's radio hobby started as an off-shoot of his travels. "I got started by going out on trips in the mobile home with my wife, Janice, and we wanted to be able to communicate when traveling, so I got a citizens band radio."

Like all CBERs, Willie and Janice are known by their CB handles: "Shadrack" and "Cinderella" from "Shakey City," CB lingo for Los Angeles because of the earthquakes.

And as do other CBERs, the Thompsons have their own special cards which they exchange via mail with others they meet over the air waves. Willie's card is green and pictures a cowboy, "Shadrack," leading a horse with a radio rig on his back through a desert, and dreaming about his "Cinderella." He chose "Shadrack," he says, because he likes the way it sounds, implying, he explains, "a loner and a wanderer."

Willie's set is a Pearce Simpson Semba, and is set up on a trolley to be used both inside the Thompson residence and in their Open Road motor home. Willie and Janice are proud of their camper and do a lot of traveling. "We've traveled all over the United States," says

Operator John Donovan's wife has unique hobby

Division 8 operator John Donovan's wife, Grace, has an unusual hobby creating jeweled egg sculpture using real eggs and old jewelry to make the exquisite objects.

According to John, Grace started her hobby about four years ago when she came across a picture of jeweled eggs in a magazine. She bought a hobby magazine to teach herself and has been at it ever since. It takes about thirty hours of work for one egg and at the present, there are more than a dozen finished eggs in the Donovan home, set on gold colored pedestals and kept in a curio case. Grace does not sell or give the eggs as gifts.

The intricate designs, often with religious themes, are fashioned from old jewelry donated by people. Grace then uses tweezers, toothpicks, glue, and egg shellack to create them on a variety of eggs. According to John, her next project is to depict "The Last Supper" and for this large scale project, she plans to use a giant Imu egg. At left is an example of Grace's handiwork.

Classified Ads

FOR SALE: 1973 Porsche - Silver, Air, AM/FM Stereo, Mags, Appearance Group. \$6,000. 967-3911 (days); 966-2089 (eves. & weekends).



Willie "Shadrack" Thompson shows off his CB rig in his Open Road motor home.

Willie proudly.

Recently, the Thompsons came back from a radio jamboree in Bakersfield, which, according to Willie, is the biggest of its kind on the West Coast. Willie also belongs to the National Radio Association (NRA) and is a base commander for the Citizens Alert Patrol (CAP), and when Janice and Willie travel to conventions

they wear matching blue vests with NRA decals — a gift from Janice on their last wedding anniversary.

Their son, Jerry, who lives in Tennessee, is also a CBER whose handle is "Tom Dooley." And for all you CBERs out there in the District, you can get Shadrack on all 23 A.M. channels and SSB.

Two Employees Attempt to Scale Mt. Shasta

Two District employees recently climbed rocky, snow-covered crags to an altitude of 12,000 feet, but were stopped by the elements in their assault on a 14,162 foot high volcano in northern California.

Art Leahy and Ray Harris, both of the Administration Department, attempted in August to climb Mt. Shasta, using ice-axes and crampons, by ascending a volcanic dike or ridge of igneous rock on the Southern face of "the Mountain," as the locals call it.



Art Leahy enjoys the rarified heights.

Beginning at 7:15 a.m., the climbers started at 7800 feet above sea level. By 9:30 a.m. they had achieved an altitude of 9300 feet and covered a distance of one mile.

At this altitude, where the oxygen-thin air can cause severe headache and nausea, Art and Ray were unable to take the most popular ascent route up Avalanch Gulch because of the deep snow and were forced to use a rocky wind-swept spine called Sargent's Ridge.

By 2:30 p.m., the climbers reached the top of their ascent, a 12,000 foot high crag covered with snow, overlooking a sheer 800 foot drop to a glacier-ice field.

While time remained to complete the hike, the prospect of the icy, jagged, pathless route to the peak was sufficient to discontinue the effort 3 miles and 4,200 feet above its starting point. The trip back down the mountain was steep and painful and arduous.

Paraphrasing the French philosopher Descartes who wrote, "I think, therefore I am," Harris, who is already planning a second attempt explained, "Why? Because it's there."



Ray Harris at the foot of Mt. Shasta.

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