



HEAD



WAY

Southern California Rapid Transit District

Volume 4, Number 5, May 1977

Division 8 reaches out to British driver's family



A contingent of Division 8 operators got up at dawn to lead a welcoming party at Los Angeles International Airport. From left (standing) are extra dispatcher Eugene Villacorta and his son, Normandy; operator Jack Brown; Mrs. Sean Harris; operator Scott Hanley; Mrs. Cora Villacorta (holding Eugene Villacorta, Jr.) and dispatcher Antenor Dominguez. Joining hands across little Stevie Harris are (left) Sean Harris and operator Antonio Guskos.

A group of RTD drivers and their families gathered at LAX recently to welcome a very special young boy to the country of his dreams.

Twelve-year-old Steve Harris, of Hertfordshire, England, confined to a wheelchair most of his life because of muscular dystrophy, had dreamed of someday visiting America. "His greatest wish had been to go to Disneyland," Steve's father Sean explained. "He had seen it all on television. He is America-mad . . . Kojak and all that."

Harris' co-workers, drivers for the London County Buses, Ltd., raised \$1,500 to send Steve and his parents to America.

Eugene Villacorta, extra division dispatcher at Division 8, learned of the Harris' planned trip through the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic organization for men.

"I had thought for some time about an international alliance with bus drivers," Villacorta remarked. "So when I read about Steve and his family, I decided this was the right opportunity. I invited my friends at Division 8 to join me in welcoming the Harris' to America."

"The Harris' flight was scheduled to arrive at approximately 7 a.m. that morning," he added. "But the plane was delayed for some two hours. We all stayed right there waiting for them to pass through customs."

Waiting with Villacorta and his family at the airport were Antenor Dominguez, Division 8 dispatcher (who got off work at 4 a.m. to meet the 9:15 a.m. flight); and Jack Brown, Gus Guskos, and Scott Hanley, all operators from Division 8.

During the Harris' visit to Los Angeles, Villacorta and his friends hoped to be able to show them some of the sites, including RTD operations. "We especially wanted to take them to Universal Studios and hoped to get him in to see Telly Savalas," Villacorta said. "However, the Kojak show had been moved to New York, so Stevie did not get to see Savalas. But he did get to meet lots of other stars."

For Stevie Harris, it was a dream come true. For Eugene Villacorta, the Harris' visit was a touching beginning to what he hopes will be an ongoing international relationship with other bus drivers and their families around the world.

1977 system shake-up may be last of its kind at RTD

In what may be the last system shake-up of its kind, the District's 4511 operators bid their assignments during 14 days of bidding May 7-21 at Division 3-10. The new assignments become effective June 19.

The No. 1 man in the system, Division 10's Sherland Clark, rebid the Run No. 001 on Line 770, and the last man to bid was Edwin Blakely, formerly of Division 7, who was left with a relief run on Lines 832 and 877 out of Division 4.

According to General Superintendent of Transportation Jack Walsh, the current bidding procedure was inherited from the Los Angeles Transit Lines by the Metropolitan Transit Authority, the District's immediate predecessor agency. But the process may change dramatically in the future.

"We are working toward the possible computerization of the bidding procedure next year" Walsh said. "We may have to set up parallel systems, utilizing the current procedure while introducing the computerized run cutting technique employed in the RUCUS computer program during the transition. I am sure, however, that we will still see some remnants of the current system no matter how sophisticated the computerized procedure becomes," he added.

This year's shake-up was given a new dimension with the addition of a floating holiday to the UTU contract. Not only did all operators

bid their work assignment and vacation, but they also bid their floating holiday.

As always, some tradition continues regardless of the changes that occur in the system. On the opening day of the bidding, for example, many operators brought their families to Division 3-10 to celebrate their increased level of seniority. A few operators had their bids placed by proxy, but the great majority show up to exercise their options in person.

Approximately 60 operators bid each hour during the shake-up. The operators' names are called in order of seniority. When an operator hears his name, he raises his hand to be identified and he goes to the division table of his choice to bid his work assignment, vacation and floating holiday. The division manager signals to the head table when the operator's bid has been approved and recorded.

Operators whose work assignment changes as a result of the system shake-up are broken in on their days off at straight time. If an operator has less than one year's seniority, he receives student pay.

All contract jobs in the Transportation Department have now been bid with the exception of those assigned to Line 1 — the traffic loaders, former operators who can no longer operate a bus for medical reasons. They will bid their work location and shift at Division 1. Their new assignments also become effective June 19.



AMONG THE FIRSTS at this year's system shake-up were the bidding for the new floating holiday and the first woman caller, Vicki Varga, Transportation Department secretary.

Recreation news

Summer programs set

Looking ahead to the weekend of June 18-19, the annual RTD Day at Knotts Berry Farm will be of interest to many RTD families. Last year nearly 800 employees visited Knotts and this year, we hope to have 1000 smiling faces enjoy either Saturday or Sunday of this two-day event. The price for all employees is \$3.50, a savings of \$2.45 per ticket, and that should be enough money to buy popcorn for the whole family.

For the first time ever, your Recreation Department has arranged for an 8 day, 7 night Aloha vacation in Hawaii for an incredible \$299 full price. The package includes air fare on a Continental Airlines DC 10 with free movies and meal, deluxe room at the Napualani Hotel, tips, taxes, souvenirs, etc.

The date is October 14 through October 21. This date was selected to match Aloha Days in Hawaii, the annual island celebration that is enjoyed by islanders and tourists alike. Space is limited, so act soon. Call extension 6580 for information or read the announcement on the Recreation bulletin boards.

The 1977 Summer Olympics, scheduled for July 17 at Cal State Los Angeles Stadium, will reflect several important changes that

should contribute to a more interesting program for contestants and spectators alike. First of all the Cal State Stadium is centrally located and easy to reach from all freeways. Secondly, we have established two age groups in the men's division that should make each event more competitive. And finally, we have added five events bringing the total to nine for the men's division and six for the women's division. Contestants will be permitted to participate in three events of their choosing. All selections are final after July 7.

Each event will be conducted in accordance with AAU rules and records will be kept for reference in future meets.

Olympic style medals in gold, silver and bronze will be awarded in each category and a divisional trophy will be awarded to the division or work location with the highest team points.

Fill out the entry coupon below with your name, badge, work location and the events you want to participate in and return it to Bill Weimer at the Administration Building or call 972-6580 for information. Remember all entries must be in by July 7 so we can finalize the meet.

1977 RTD SUMMER OLYMPICS

NAME	DEPARTMENT		
BADGE	Men 18-40	Men 40 & Over	Women All Ages
___	100 Yd Dash	50 Yd Dash	50 Yd Dash
___	220 Yd Run	High Jump	High Jump
___	Mile Run	Long Jump	Long Jump
___	High Jump	Shot Put	440 Relay
___	Long Jump	440 Relay	Shot Put
___	440 Relay	½ Mile Run	½ Mile Run
___	Shot Put	440 Yd Relay Mixed Group	

(All entries must be received by July 7, 1977)

RTD blood donors help District surpass target for this year's drive

The RTD Blood Bank is 72 pints of whole blood richer, as a result of the Bloodmobile's visit to the Headquarters Building April 22.

The RTD Blood Bank works more like a household budget than a savings account — there is never enough to pay all the bills. As of March 1977, the District's Blood Bank had a credit of 90 pints but there were 167 pints withdrawn which left RTD with a 77 pint deficit.

"District management would like to express its thanks to those employees who donated their blood," said Bill Kendall, Blood Drive chairman. "Special thanks go to Justin Bell, Lucy Torres, and Melvin Polk for assisting in registering the donors, and to the coordinators who brought the message to the would-be donors in their department and answered their many questions: Irene O'Regan, Accounting; Sherry Reicher, Rapid Transit; Lesley Lyles, Insurance; John Anaya, Engineering; Frank Blumenthal, Dispatcher; Al Altig, Instruction; Elston Burnley, Special Agents; Pauline Kennedy, Information Switchboard; Margie Elkin, Data Processing; Ralph

Wilson, Operations; Kathy Williams, Purchasing; Marta Espantman, Administration; Alan Weeks, Schedules; and Donna Hockenbury, Marketing. Harold Kelly was also very helpful in assisting the Red Cross staff."

Kendall explained that due to a shortage of Red Cross volunteers, twenty-seven District would-be donors could not be accommodated. "They deserve a special thanks for their willingness to participate," he said. "Arrangements are already underway for another Bloodmobile in the near future."

In the meantime, all District employees and members of their families are encouraged to donate by continuing to take advantage of Bloodmobiles throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties. A monthly schedule is posted on bulletin boards and extra copies may be obtained through the Personnel Department.

"The RTD Blood Bank is for all District employees and their immediate families," Kendall added. "Let's all roll up our sleeves and support this life-giving plan which directly benefits our employees."



Parade of 14 RTD buses caravans down Magnolia Ave.

RTD marks end of an era

Local RTD service in the City of Riverside came to an end April 16 as a parade of 14 buses made its way through town on Magnolia Avenue to Division 13 where the District hosted an open house for employees and Riverside residents.

Six local lines were eliminated, but regional RTD service continues between Riverside and such points as Los Angeles, Pomona, San Bernardino, Orange County, and Long Beach.

The 20 coaches formerly used in the Riverside operation will be utilized by Division 9 to retire older equipment.

Local service in the area is now provided by the new Riverside Transit Agency, which began operating its own buses on routes identical to the District's on March 16.

Riverside had been subsidizing the District's operations but when that subsidy ended, RTA began operating at a 25-cent fare, and the fare on RTD buses was raised to the standard 35-cent rate. As a result of the new RTA service and its lower fare, RTD's average of approximately 5,000 passengers a day in Riverside was cut almost in half.



Bus No. 4222 turns into Division 13 for last time

Lost and Found Office: RTD's Pandora's Box



Boyd Emerick wades into inventory of lost articles

False teeth . . . umbrellas . . . cans of paint . . . a bucket filled with sand . . . a box crawling with cockroaches . . . all are items that have been found on RTD buses.

An average of 50 to 70 such items are sorted through each weekday at the Lost and Found Office at 425 S. Main.

Boyd Emerick, whose duties have included Lost and Found for the past 10 years, explains the procedure. "At the end of his day, the operator turns in to the division whatever he found on his bus. He tags each item identifying the bus line, day found, his name, badge number, all the pertinent information. The Division seals the day's accumulated lost articles in a bag, attaches an inventory to the outside of the bag and sends it to us.

"At first we used to clear off a desk and empty the bag's contents onto the top in order to compare its contents with inventory sheet. That is," Emerick adds, "until a bucket filled with sand was sent in. We had such a hard time cleaning up the sand, we then started emptying the bags onto the floor."

Then one day a can of pink paint was found on a bus. The can of paint was tagged and sent in to the Lost and Found Office. As usual when the bag arrived, the contents were emptied onto the floor of the office. However, as Emerick relates, the lid on the can of paint had come loose and, you guessed it, pink paint all over the office!

After the bags are carefully checked, all items are kept in the Lost and Found Office for 30 days. If the item has identification, however, the District will notify the owner it has their property.

"We had \$5,000 in negotiable bonds turned in one time," says Emerick. "We contacted the owner to let him know we had found his property. He, in turn, merely asked us to mail the bonds back to him!"

Not all people losing items on

RTD buses are as nonchalant as the owner of the bonds, however.

"One day I saw a senior citizen claim a wallet containing two \$5 bills," Emerick explains. "He took one of the \$5 bills and handed it back to the clerk to forward to the driver who had turned in his wallet."

Since it is the District's policy not to release the operator's name to the claimant, the owner can leave a thank you for him at the Lost and Found Office. The reward is then forwarded to the finder at his work location.

Chris Perna, an operator out of Division 11, recently received a letter and check for \$15 from the Lost and Found Office.

Perna had turned in a woman's coat.

"I'm glad somebody took the time to at least thank me," Perna said. "A few months ago, a passenger found a wallet on my bus. He gave me the wallet and when I turned it in that night, I counted over \$900 in cash in the wallet. The wallet and money were claimed three or four days later, but I didn't receive a thank you."

If an item is left unclaimed in the Lost and Found office for 30 days, the finder is notified and is given the opportunity to claim it.

Disposing of unclaimed items sometimes requires nerves of steel as Emerick explains. "Russ Wilson (associate surface planner) and I were clearing out the office several years ago. It is a 'no-no' to send in perishables, but somehow this one box was overlooked. It had started to smell, so Russ volunteered to take the box outside to the bins in the alley. He picked up the box, and suddenly bolted for the door. It was crawling with cockroaches."

False teeth . . . purses . . . umbrellas . . . cans of paint . . . a bucket filled with sand . . . a box crawling with cockroaches . . . indeed, all in a day's work as the Lost gets Found at the RTD.

'How to get yourself on a game show for fun and profit'

Martha Curtis and Diane Guastafarro, secretaries in Planning have done it. So have Andi McFall, management assistant; Bob Meeks, real estate manager; and Alice Tolbert-Wiggins, news bureau editor. Each one has recently been a television game show contestant and you can be one, too — if you're lucky.

It's been 18 years since the American TV public was shocked by the great quiz show scandals. Now, though, the country is once again crazy about television game shows and the networks are responding.

There are currently 11 game shows running on the three major networks and at least another 10 shows being shown on other stations by syndication.

Says Bob Barker, the host of CBS's *The Price is Right* (as quoted in *Family Circle Magazine*) "I've been in the television-game-show business for 20 years and game shows are now at an all-time high. There are more game shows than ever before and they get better ratings than ever before.

This means that more and more contestants are needed to par-

ticipate on these game shows and that the opportunity to win thousands of dollars in cash and prizes is growing. Even if you don't end up being the "grand prize" winner, participating on the show itself is tremendous fun and the losing contestants always receive consolation prizes, sometimes totaling up to \$500.

Martha, Andi, and Bob were recently on "Second Chance" - the newest game show entry on T.V. Both Martha and Andi won consolation prizes, worth \$500. These prizes included a collection of items, such as 4 gallons of paint, \$25 worth of candy, silver trays, a vacuum cleaner, a tote bag, a Mr. Coffee machine, etc. But each received a major prize. Martha won a combination portable AM/FM PCB radio with a 3-inch television and Andi won an automatic trash compactor. Andi and her husband were also on the game show "Gambit" where their major consolation prize was an original oil painting, now worth over \$500.

Bob was a "grand prize" winner. He went home with \$4,800 in cash and a \$1,000 sailboat. Bob, a

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RTD winners (from left) Tolbert-Wiggins, Curtis, Meeks, McFall and Guastafarro.



Old car barn was in full use in 1940s as shown in photo above

'Ghost of Tr

The building is dark and eerie even though the lights are on and the sun is shining outside. Birds flit overhead on their way to nests in the rafters, but one would expect bats to be circling rather than the friendly sparrows. Sitting in the offices, one can listen to the building creak and pop and groan. It is almost as if the voices of transit past were begging to be remembered.

Built in 1910, the last of three street car barns at Division 3-10 still stands but faces demolition in the fall. New garages have been completed and the maintenance crews moved out of the old garage early in May. The area where the vacant garage now stands will be cleared off and the site used for a new wash rack, vacuum cleaner and fuel station.

Once known as Pepper J., Division 3-10 has become one of RTD's busiest facilities, storing and maintaining 280 pieces of equipment. Over 550 operators work out of the division and 105 maintenance employees keep the buses running.

Since its beginning with Los



RTD All-Stars nearly beat J

A squad of RTD All-Stars challenged Johnny Brown's KLAC basketball team last month, and when the dust settled, KLAC had won 100-92 in a hard-fought game that looked more professional than amateur.

As in professional games, the National Anthem was beautifully sung, this time by Division 15 operator Steve Yancey and his lovely wife, Sherry. Then the action began.

RTD guard Anthony Melton got the first basket. Melton is an operator at Division 2. He played a spirited, effective defense and totaled 10 points during the game. RTD center Stanley Mixon followed with another two points. Mixon shot consistently, as did Curtis "Cadillac" Rowe, and All Star Vernon Holloway. Holloway and Mixon are operators at Division 10. Together they scored 35 points.

"Cadillac," who drives out of Division 18, ended up with 21 points.

Dennis Hoage came through with KLAC's first basket. He totaled 49 points and was obviously instrumental in his team's victory.

Hoage played football at Washington State University. Coach Cliff Brandon and Orlando Lee were the other mainstays for KLAC. Lee, who only scored five points, is an All-American football, baseball and basketball player, and currently works with the educationally handicapped at L.A. City Schools. Brandon is a UCLA All America and made seven points by the end of the game.

The pace was brisk, almost basket-for-basket. With 24 seconds left in the first quarter, the score was 20-19, RTD. Then, during those last moments of the period things really started moving. Both teams crowded around RTD's basket when someone dropped the ball. Fingers, feet and legs went flying. In the melee that followed, Melton came up with the ball and passed it through his legs to "Cadillac" — and RTD made the final basket for the first quarter. The score was 22-19 RTD.

During the second quarter RTD's John "Dr. J" Howard, equipment maintenance supervisor of Division 9 came in to play. Coaches Louis Oyola, Division 1 operator,



'Transit Past'

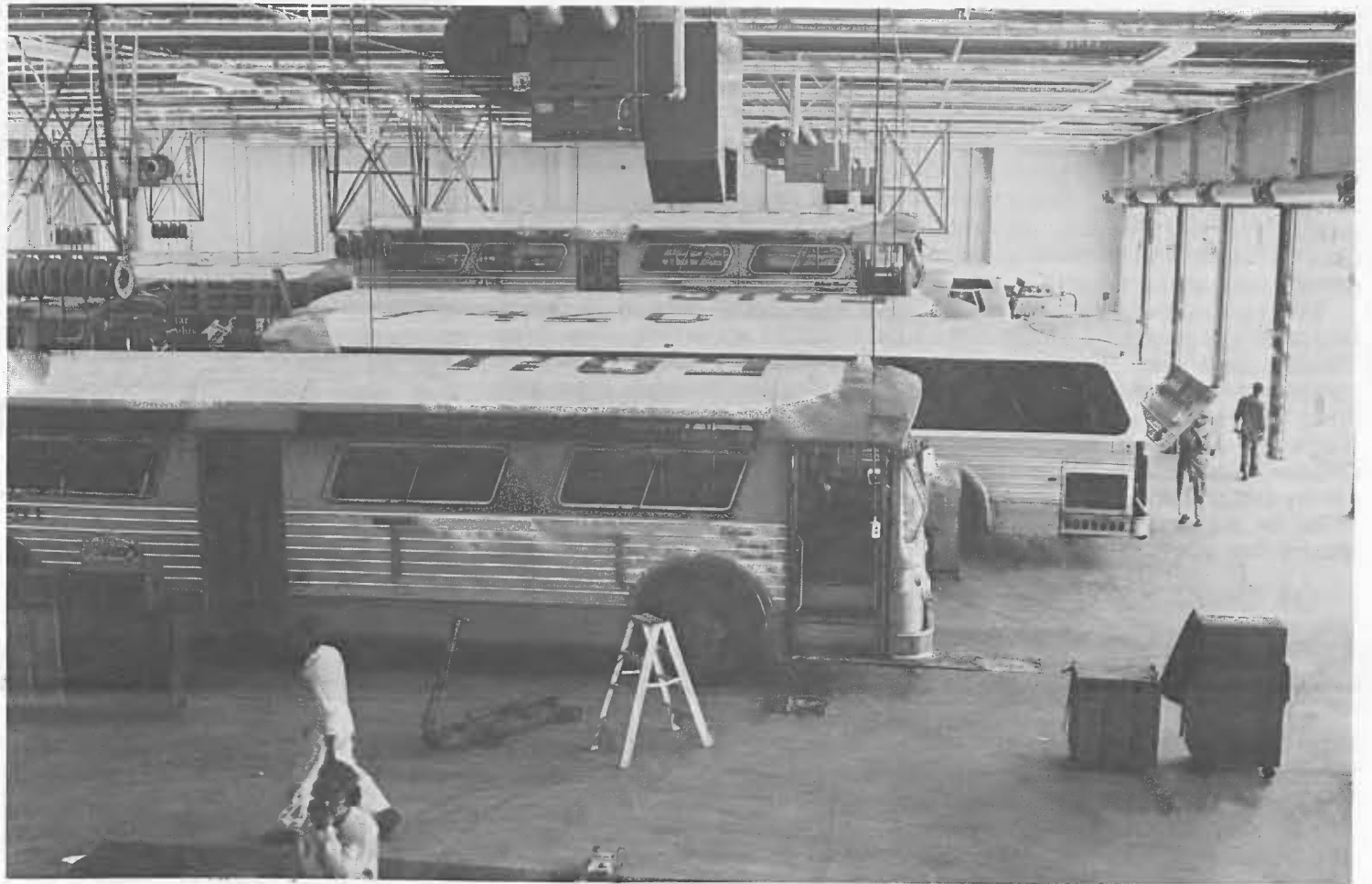
Angeles Railway, this Division has always been the center of activity in Los Angeles. Originally a street car division, it was converted to a combination rail and motor coach division when Los Angeles Transit Lines bought it in 1945.

During L.A. Transit Lines' ownership, the division boasted a two-story train room, the second story of which had a dance floor which was used for company dances and dinners.

In 1956 street cars were abandoned in favor of buses. The yard was cleaned out — two of the garages were torn down and the tracks were paved over. Anyone walking through the Division today can still see some of the tracks showing through the black top.

The train room was torn down shortly after MTA took over ownership in 1958.

Division 3-10's new maintenance facility is bright and airy in comparison to the tunnel-like garage across the yard. It has a capability of servicing 16-18 coaches at one time and is the only Division with 12 hydraulic lifts, a new concept in maintenance.



New garage area provides greatly improved working environment over old facility

Johnny Brown's KLAC team

and Carl Jones, Division 10 operator, were taking a chance considering "Dr. J" had sprained his hand at practice just two weeks prior to the game. Still, "Dr. J" managed to sink some important shots. KLAC's Cliff Brandon made two successful shots before Tom Dixon, a driver from Division 9, put on the heat. Dixon showed excellent talent, making two consecutive baskets. As half time approached, Vernon Holloway and "Dr. J" scored another four points for the District, but Dennis Hoage and Coach Brandon were right on top of them, scoring for KLAC. The District led 42-39 at half time.

Throughout the second half of the game, it was obvious the RTD All Stars were up against some pretty professional basketball players. According to Warren Meats, Division 5 operator and RTD's commissioner of softball and basketball, "The RTD All Stars have played together only three times before. KLAC has had a team for six years."

During the third quarter KLAC's Mike Warren showed what he could do. Warren hails from UCLA

and also stars in the motion picture, "Norman, is that You?" with Redd Foxx and Pearl Bailey. Warren made one-fourth of KLAC's points and scored three quick baskets early in the third quarter. He also collided with Anthony Melton and from then until the end of the game, pressure, tension and excitement filled the air. The play grew more intense, the crowd shouted encouragement, and the RTD Cheerleaders kept the atmosphere charged.

RTD put up one heck of a fight against KLAC, but District fouls were becoming increasingly plentiful and costly. At one point Melton ran so fast and hard that he crashed sideways into a concrete wall. Stunned, he recovered just as "Cadillac" Rowe made another basket for RTD. The third quarter ended with RTD still ahead.

With 9:25 left in the fourth quarter, the score was 65-65. Dennis Hoage, PAC-8 athlete, broke the tie, leaving KLAC ahead, 67-66. It was the first time during the game that RTD wasn't in the lead. But RTD's All Stars scored another

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Game shows

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landlubber, says he'll be selling the boat.

Diane appeared on the show "Concentration" and won a cash award of over \$100 after almost winning \$2,500 worth of prizes. Alice was recently on "Hollywood Squares" where she was the big winner of the night, going home with \$900 and a new Datsun station wagon. Alice is also a 'veteran' game show contestant - she appeared on "High Rollers" last year, where she won a consolation prize and various items from the show.

Would you like to be on a television game show? Here's what to do: The first thing is to decide what kind of show you'd like to try. In shows like "Hollywood Squares" and "Match Game '77," contestants play games with movie stars. On "Wheel of Fortune," a contestant plays a word-puzzle game by himself. And on "Second Chance" contestants must know general facts and trivia.

The next consideration is what kind of prizes you'd like to win. On "Double Dare" and "Family Feud" contestants win only cash; on "The Price Is Right" only prizes; and on "Let's Make a Deal" and "Second Chance," contestants can win both money and prizes.

To be auditioned, most shows require that you write in for tickets

to be in the audience for a taping. During the tapings, those in the audience who are interested are given an initial interview. If the producers see you as a potential contestant, you are called back for further auditioning.

If you are contacted, then the real competition begins. Some shows interview over 1,000 persons a week. Of these, only 10 or 12 may be chosen for a week's taping of shows. Competition is stiff, and each show looks for different things in a contestant. Says Nancy Jones, a producer for "Wheel of Fortune," "We like attractive, outgoing people, who'd like to win our prizes. People you'd like to have lunch with or invite to your home." Ida Mae McKenzie, the contestant coordinator for "Hollywood Squares" states: "For this show, we've often said, 'It's not your brains, but your teeth we're interested in. You have to learn to think with your teeth.'" Miss McKenzie says "Squares" contestants need energy, vitality, and the ability to compete.

But if you're not good at word games and you don't want to "think with your teeth" then an audience participation show like "The Price is Right" is for you. The show's producer, Jay Wolpert, says "We want someone who looks like they are going to emote . . . You can't try and be a good contestant for this show. You either have the aura we're looking for or you don't."

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Don Barnes works to recruit fellow employees for sound movie production

Donald A. Barnes, Division 1 operator, is trying to generate interest among District employees to form a film club, and he has found a sure fire way to get RTD drivers involved.

"I want the members of the Club to produce a film about a fictitious bus driver who works for a fictitious bus company, and title it, 'Agony of a Bus Driver,'" he said. "It will touch on every aspect of a driver's life, both on and off the job."

Barnes' plan is to recruit enough interested members in the club to produce some first class films. "Members of the club will be able to work through every step of movie making, from lighting, editing, sound and camera through writing, directing and producing," he said. "I know there are several RTD drivers already working on amateur film making projects. If we pool our resources — especially on a project as near and dear to our

hearts as driving a bus — I'm sure we'll come up with a great film."

Barnes intends to shoot "Agony of a Bus Driver" in sound Super 8, but he expects that the club will also be involved with 16 mm film as well.

Barnes earned a one-year scholarship last year from UCLA to attend a film making course. His selection was based upon his production of "Greed," a story about an Los Angeles woman who marries an older man for his money, but doesn't live to enjoy it. "Greed" starred Lee Baily, Division 4-5's dispatcher, Harold Kenneybrew, Division 6 operator, and Philmore Crawford, Division 1-11 operator-extra division dispatcher. The Los Angeles Police Department even volunteered a squad car and two patrolmen for the making of the film.

Employees interested in joining the RTD Film Club should contact Don Barnes at 296-8157.

Off-Roaders elect officers

The RTD's Off-Roaders elected their first board of officers May 7 at Division 1-11. Jerry Champagne is president; Lonnie Anders, vice president; Stephen Chaney, secretary; and Ron Pratt, wagon master.

Safety rules were established as the first order of business. The rules, to be enforced by the officers, include provisions for roll bars, seat belts and fire extinguishers.

According to Champagne, the Club intends to sponsor one or two charity events for the handicapped who could not otherwise see the

beauty they can off road. All RTD employees can receive a substantial discount on auto accessories from auto parts wholesalers in the area through the club. Jerry Champagne at Division 11 has the details.

"An RTD employee does not need a four-wheel drive vehicle to join the club," Champagne added. "A pick-up, motorcycle, dune buggy, Baja Bug, or VW will do. You can join even if you're just looking for one. In fact, all you need is to like off roading. We need co-drivers and navigators and we're looking for members to serve as our own first aid crew."

RTD honors Divs. 6 and 3-10 with highest safety awards



ACCEPTING DIVISION 6's Safe Performance trophy award for maintenance is Arthur Howard (left), the Venice division's maintenance manager. Board President Marvin Holen (right) also presented Howard with the fourth quarter award for Division 6.

The District has honored two divisions with its highest awards for maintenance and transportation safety.

The 1976 Safe Performance Award for maintenance was earned by Division 6's employees who worked more than 79,000 hours in 1976 with only three lost-time injuries. That accomplishment represents a decrease in Division 6 lost-time injuries of 43 per cent in a year when its man-hours increased by five per cent over 1975.

Division 6 had earned the third quarter award and the fourth quarter award to clinch the overall safe performance trophy for Maintenance & Equipment.

The 1976 Safe Performance Award for transportation was presented to Division 3-10, whose operators logged more than 1.2

million miles in 1976 (a 13 per cent increase in miles operated over 1975) and experienced 76 fewer accidents. Division 3-10 also had won the third and fourth quarter safety awards.

In presenting the awards to Arthur Howard, maintenance manager of Division 6, and Eddie Edmondson, transportation manager of Division 3-10, Board President Marvin L. Holen congratulated the personnel at each division "for contributing to the safety of our employees and the citizens we serve."

Overall in 1976, Holen added, the District reduced its vehicle and passenger accident frequency rate from 85 per million miles operated to 79 per million miles operated. "That is a record for which we can all be proud," he said.



TRANSPORTATION'S overall safe performance winner was Division 3-10. Board President Marvin Holen (left) presents both the overall trophy and the fourth quarter safety award to L.E. Edmondson, Division 3-10 transportation manager, and Instructor Leonard Medlock.



WINTER SOFTBALL'S First Place winner was the team from Division 3-10. Standing from left are Preston Banks, James Cenderelli, Hector Hernandez, Michael Trotter, Roger Glass, Phillip Plantamura, Marvin Miller, Dave Bautista, L. E. Edmondson and Warren Mitchell. Kneeling from left are Benjamin Crosby, William Jackson, Ancel Rodgers, Winston Fisher, David Young and Warren Meats. Scorekeeper and cheerleaders are unidentified.



SECOND PLACE WINNERS were the players from Division 15. In the back row from left are Jay Webber, Roger Degroseilliers, William Motherspaw, Joseph Eskiewicz, Ronald Harter, Carlos Ceville and Scott Duncan. Kneeling from left are Cornell Rycraw, David Woods, Al Coleman, Adrian Mott and Oliver Matthews. Holding the trophy are Hal Davis and Warren Meats.

Basketball

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basket immediately. Vernon Holloway, Stanley Mixon and William Harrison, a driver at Division 5, tried to keep the All Stars ahead of the game. Melton and Waren clashed again. This time they fell. With 2:32 left in the game, "Dr. J" scored another two points. But Warren and Hoage continued to shoot perfectly. Twenty-five seconds left and the score was 82-98. Holloway made a basket, so did Mixon and "Cadillac." KLAC's Warren managed one, too. The score was 90-100, with only three seconds left. From across the court, Melton caught the ball. He glanced at the clock, hesitated, then almost without looking he hurled the ball with one fierce motion. For a split second the crowd was silent. Then they went wild. The ball zeroed in, slamming through the net just as the buzzer sounded the end of the game. RTD scored the final two points, making the score 92-100 in favor of KLAC.

The idea of an RTD-KLAC game originated with John Tincher, mark-up man at Division 15. "I knew the KLAC had played the Police and Fire Departments to help them raise funds, and I thought an RTD-KLAC game would be a natural for the District."

Diane Moran, associate administrative analyst, lead a seven-member squad of enthusiastic cheerleaders from the Headquarters Building. Sheila DuVernay, Marta Espantman, Cher McLaughlin, Debbie McPherson, Michelle Podaca and Ambrosia Suma all made their own cheering outfits, complete with pom poms and tassles. Gregg Jordan, Division 11 operator provided rhythmic support on the drums. And John Tincher coached other energetic cheerleaders ranging in ages from nine to 11.



Employees of Month honored

The Board of Directors issued a warm congratulations to April's three employees of the month at the April 28 Board meeting.

John Downes of Division 10 was honored as Operator of the Month. In his six years with the District, Downes has earned the distinction of never having a chargeable accident; he has never had a miss-out; and he has never been written up.

Honors for Information Operator of the Month went to John Kubota. He was cited for his expertise in providing route, fare and schedule information to callers, and for his kindness and concern toward RTD customers. His supervisors credit him with a performance which far exceeds the Department's standards of excellence.

Delmar Kuntz, Division 18 mechanic, earned the Maintenance Employee of the Month award. His division manager

credited him for giving that little bit of extra of himself to get the work out on time. When out on a road call, Kuntz has often heard over the radio that another coach is in trouble, drive right to it, repair it and get it back into service. This kind of alert action saves sending another mechanic and coach out of the shop.

Each employee was applauded for his outstanding courtesy and helpful attitude. In addition to the congratulations, the honorees received a framed certificate, a check for \$50, and two box seat tickets and dinner for two as part of the Win With the Dodgers in '77 program.

Participating in the presentation are (from left) Director Ruth Richter; Downes; Ed Edmondson, transportation manager at Division 3-10; Kubota; Milton Spencer, maintenance manager at Division 18; Kuntz; and Robert Williams, manager of customer relations.

District club to receive its charter in Toastmasters

Society today is bombarded with electronic, multi-media messages. Televisions blast news of international war, radio stations conduct marathon "give-aways" — and everyday the Los Angeles newspapers publish thousands of printed words.

As a result of this "information overload," effective, open, face-to-face interaction exists as a shadow — a shadow in the light of advanced communication technology. We have a communication gap.

RTD's Toastmaster Club is attempting to bridge that gap. The key to being a toastmaster lies in developing your individual, positive speaking qualities. You draw on your ability to communicate — to persuade, entertain and even change ideas in the mind of your listener.

You have a voice. Use it. Say what you want, in your own way — and then develop the skills and techniques learned by over 3,000 Toastmasters during the Club's 45-year history.

Contact RTD Toastmaster President Paula Salido (Ext. 6491) for more information about joining the club.

The members of RTD Toastmasters Club invite all District employees to celebrate their charter presentation and installation of officers at a banquet June 15 at Luminaria's Restaurant, 3600 Ramona Blvd., Monterey Park. A no-host cocktail hour will begin at 6:30 p.m., and dinner is \$9 per person. For reservations call Paula Salido at the extension shown above.

Help close the communication gap. Feel what it's like to really say something.

Making Headway . . .

Richard Serrano, Division 9 operator, married Ellen Weinstein in an informal ceremony at home on April 23. The couple honeymooned in Santa Barbara.

Tommy Walker, assistant manager at Division 4-5, and his wife, Nancee, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on April 20. The Walkers are planning a trip to Hawaii in August.

Sidney J. Smith, division dispatcher at Division 4-5, became a grandfather for the fourth time. Named after her grandfather, Sydney Jacqueline Smith weighed in on May 1 at 6 lbs., 6 ozs.

A medal for figure skating excellence to 11-year-old Sonia Pena, daughter of Juan L. Pena, Division 6 operator. Sonia has been skating only 1½ years.



RTD'S YOUNGEST Line Instructor is alive and well, and living in Delkenheim, Germany. Bethany Denise Watts, one-year-old granddaughter of recently retired Schedule Analyst John Burton, lives just outside Frankfurt with her father Willie and Burton's daughter Carolyn. Willie is a captain in the Air Force, and serves as navigator on a C-130 Transport. He will move back to the States next year. Burton retired recently with 30 years of service to the District and its predecessor agencies.

Classifieds

FOR SALE: 26-foot Clipper Marine sail boat, fixed keel, electronics, extras. Excellent condition. \$7,000. Call 294-7537.

FOR SALE: Musical instrument amplifier, Custom III-L, 100 Watts RMS, dual channel, reverb and more. Still under warranty. \$400. Call Mark at 787-4505.

FOR SALE: King size water bed, knotty pine 4-poster with liner, 20 guage vinyl mattress and thermostatic heater. \$400. Call E. Wooden, 892-4643.

FOR SALE: Eight-foot Herculon sofa, newly upholstered. Asking \$140. Call Lloyd at (805) 522-5386.

Margaret Castle, Division 6 operator, is a very proud aunt. Her niece, Carlyon Craig and her nephew, Patrick Banks, who are graduating from high school in June have some outstanding achievements.

Carlyon has been on the honor roll at LeRoy Locke High School with a B+ average for the last three years. She plans to major in Business Administration at Los Angeles City College.

Patrick has, literally, quite a track record. Chosen "Outstanding Trackster" for Covina High, Banks has won first place medals in the mile relay, the triple jump and the 330 low hurdle track events. He has maintained a B+ average while majoring in Vocational Chemistry at Covina High and will receive a sports scholarship.

Laura Marie Jarman is number one in her family. Born on her grandmother's birthday, May 1, Laura is the first grandchild. She is also No. 1 in the eyes of her parents, Irene and Larry Jarman, Division 6 operator.

The year 1927 was a great year for weddings, at least in the minds of two couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversaries this month.

Former operator Leo Sheeham and his wife celebrated their May 12 anniversary at a party given by their daughter May 21.

Lil and Billy Pinder have been married 50 years, and their anniversary fell on May 21. Now retired, Pinder worked at South Park from 1935 to 1968.

FOR SALE: Refrigerator, Frigidaire, white, apartment size, in excellent condition. Call Ruth at 275-3950.

FOR SALE: 1971 Dodge Van conversion. Sleeps four adults. Table, stove, electric, water, ice box and storage. 77,000 miles, was overhauled at 65,000 miles. Gets 15 mpg. Price \$4,295. Call Jack Purcell at (714) 622-3821.

FOR SALE: 1973 Vega GT S/W, four-speed, custom interior/exterior. Tinted glass, AM/FM radio, CR70/13 Steelguard radials, 54,000 miles. Call Instr. Anderson at 869-8829.

FOR SALE: 1976 Dolphin Mini-cruiser (Kona), 18 ft., 455 cu. in. Olds, 325 HP (stock), Jacuzzi Jet, 20 gal. capacity, two-tone blue shag carpeting, pearl white seats with blue welting, super trick paint. Tandem axel Road Runner trailer. \$6,000 or best offer. Instr. Anderson, 869-8829.

FOR SALE: Marlin .30/30 lever model 336C with Bushnell 3 x 9 power scope. \$125 or best offer. Instr. Anderson, 869-8829.

Game shows

(Continued from page six)

"We're looking for either of two types," he continued. "One is the jumper. This is someone who'll jump up and down and bounce around when we pick her . . . The other is the quiet vulnerable type. When she's on the show, people empathize with her when she's trying desperately to guess the price of a refrigerator.

If you'd like to be a contestant, keep paper and pencil handy the

next time you watch your favorite game show. Many game shows announce at their conclusion where to write to be a contestant.

In case no announcement about contestants is made or if you have other questions about the show, call the promotion manager of the local TV station that airs the program.

Also, if you live in California, The Los Angeles Times runs advertisements in the personals column of its classified advertising section seeking game-show contestants.

RTD's vital statistics

Moving up

Name	Div/ Dept.	Classification	Date
Adams, James M.	3201	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Burns, Jill L.	3215	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Caballero, Emilio	3399	Mech. "A" Leadman To Supervisor I	4/10/77
Eich, Jack J.	3399	Mech. "A" Leadman To Supervisor I	4/17/77
Farowich, Jr., Paul	3215	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Fields, Ethel	3215	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Floyd, Maru G.	3204	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Gardner, William A.	3210	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Graf, Tony F.	3209	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Hubbard, Jr., Jimmie	3318	Mech. "B" To Mech. "A"	4/17/77
Ledford, Archie R.	3209	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Lee, Choon N.	3314	Mech. "B" To Mech. "A"	4/17/77
Lee, Jr., Robert	7300	Mopper Waxer To Truck Driver Clerk	4/17/77
McCams, James D.	3207	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Merkle, Dan J.	3206	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
O'Neill, Richard F.	3211	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Ortiz, Audrey	3203	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Perez, Francisco	3302	Mech. "B" To Mech. "A"	4/17/77
Phillips, Kenneth A.	3215	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Polanco, Narciso	3212	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Schiratti, Enrique L.	3399	Mech. "A" To Supervisor I	4/10/77
Seehoffer, Carl W.	3308	Mech. "B" To Mech. "A"	4/17/77
Singerman, William C.	3315	Stock Shop Clerk Relief To Stock Clerk	4/10/77
Taylor, Paul C.	4200	Advance Planner-R.T. To Dir. of Surf. Planning	4/18/77
Vaughn, Thomas M.	3215	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Villacorta, Eugenio L.	3208	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Weger, Joseph S.	3215	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77
Woolum, Jr., John W.	3399	Mech. "A" Leadman To Supervisor I	4/17/77
Young, David	3203	Operator To Op.-Ex. Div. Disp.	4/11/77

Retired

Name	Div./ Dept.	Classification	Began	Retired
Arendall, Norman E.	3209	Operator	3-21-56	4-5-77
Blumenthal, Frank	3298	Chief Radio Dispatcher	10-7-42	4-23-77
Garcia, Refugio S.	6201	Former Utility "A" Transferred to Ind. Leave 7-28-75	12-28-59	5-1-77
Heaton, Robert L.	3211	Operator	11-15-40	4-1-77
Kelly, Jr., William	3212	Operator	3-3-52	4-15-77
Loewing, Robert	3210	Operator	12-29-44	4-2-77

In memoriam

Name	Div. Dept.	Classification	Deceased
Aldrich, Warren C.	3212	Former Operator Retired 2-19-77	4-26-77
Bammerlin, Herbert C.	3204	Former Operator Retired 3-1-62	3-29-77
Hicks, Jr., Shelley	3110	Lead Mopper-Waxer	3-28-77
Huber, Henry H.	3210	Former Operator Retired 10-1-65	4-27-77
LaHue, Leroy	3209	Former Operator Retired 6-1-69	3-28-77
Smith, Richard E.	3206	Former Operator Retired 2-8-77	4-2-77
Solomon, William L.	3203	Former Operator Retired 11-30-70	4-21-77
Zuniga, Enrique Eudocio	3305	Mechanic "B"	4-2-77

HEADWAY

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