

INSIDE MOVES



LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION 403 West 8th St., Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90014 (213) 626-0370

The LACTC Staff Newsletter "All the news that's unfit to print"

COMINGS AND GOINGS

July 1986

COMING ON BOARD...



PAOLA MACCHI-NUZUM joined the Commission in April as Secretary to Ray Maekawa's group. Paola is a native of Milano, Italy. However, she is no newcomer to the local transit scene, having worked as a secretary at SCRC on the ninth floor. We are sure Paola decided to shorten twice-daily elevator rides because of the many benefits we offer, including a better softball team, an exceptional level of employee camaraderie and the delight of earning full flex days (hear that Murph?). What the

Commission has received from Paola is the kind of sweetness that poets describe best. Unfortunately, there are none who can do justice to her good nature in metered style. Paola's friendly attitude is genuine--none of the sychophantic slickness that you see in public relations types. Although she once managed press and promotion duties for CBS Records in Milano, Paola failed to adopt those carnivorous behavior patterns that characterize entertainmentdom's sharks. It wouldn't have helped her even if she did, because there's no such creature in transitdom. Right? Our vivacious Italiana lives in the Los Feliz area with husband Robert and a small school of fish. Paola enjoys riding horses, traveling, reading and sleeping. Her favorite authors are Pirandello and Marie Cardinal; she enjoys rock music, the movie "Brazil," works by Alfred Hitchcock, traveling to places she's never been before and savoring Italian food.

JULIE SCHMITZ joined Sharon Neely's group in May as Transit Programs Analyst. Julie formerly was a financial analyst with the U.S. Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C. In her new position, she is responsible for helping administer the Prop. A 40% Discretionary program, developing the Short Range Transit Plan and

keeping an eagle's eye on formula allocation procedures and how operators spend their money. Julie was reared in Bay City, Michigan and received a bachelor's in German from Michigan State University and an MBA from Southern Illinois University. She now lives in Santa Monica with husband, Joe, a former United States Air Force pilot working towards a Ph.D in communications at USC. The Schmitz's have one son, Karl, a fifth-grader, and two cats. Julie enjoys exploring the Southern California region where she hopes to discover good eating places, book-stores stocked with titles in German and Finance, record shops that carry everything but country music and movie houses that play German flicks. Julie also hopes to accumulate enough vacation time to make a trip to Europe, her favorite sight-seeing spot. Although we hired Julie to help improve our local problems of congestion and overcrowding, she says she's really quite impressed with how well traffic and transit works in L.A. Just wait till the rains come, Julie!



BOB FLEISCHMAN was hired in May to fill the newly created position of Senior Accountant. Bob reports to Murphy McCalley and oversees various accounting tasks like reviewing and developing accounting procedures, maintaining records and preparing statements. (Sounds like the man to see when you can't balance your checkbook.) Bob was reared in Miami, but assures us he left all his vice behind. After receiving his bachelor's in business administration from the University of Miami, Bob worked for a number of Southern



Comings & Goings, continued

California cities as an accountant. He resides in West Los Angeles with wife Maureen, a junior high school English teacher and two daughters, Laura, age 15 who desires to be the next Sally Ride and Tracy, eight-and-a-half, who will be a U.S. President, says Bob unhesitatingly. The Fleischmans have one dog and enjoy family activities that include swimming, boating and camping.



NALINI AHUJA, who started at LACTC early last year as an intern, became a full-time staffer in May when she joined Sharon Neely's unit as transit analyst. Nalini will assist transit operators in planning and obtaining financing for their programs and will work on the transit performance-management program. Nalini just earned her Master's from UCLA's Urban Planning & Architecture Program. A native of India, she arrived in the United States three and a half years ago from New Delhi. Nalini lives in West Los Angeles with her husband, Alok, a banker, and enjoys traveling, reading, and going to the

movies. Nalini's favorites are seafood, writers William Goldman and P.G. Wodehouse, classical Indian music, "Midnight Express," and vacationing in London.

After a hiring lull that we on the Inside Moves staff knew was too good to last, new hires shot up again in June.



RICH DE ROCK was hired as the second senior analyst in the Paratransit section in June. Rich comes to us from Orange County where he was the operations manager for CTS, a south Orange County dial-a-ride. Rich was reared in Davis and liked the town so much he decided to stay there to earn a bachelor's in environmental geology (land-use planning) from the local UC campus. Rich will be working with cities and public agencies to encourage the creation of subregional paratransit systems. He also will be the staff person respon-

sible for the Paratransit Operations Subcommittee. Rich resides in Dana Point, and says he enjoys sleeping during his two-hour train commute every morning. Rich enjoys backpacking, walking along the beach, traveling, well-prepared food, authors Ann McCaffery and J. Tolkien, jazz, soft rock and classical music, Hitchcock's "Rear Window," and vacationing in the mountains for high alpine backpacking. Rich's pet peeves are late buses and packed freeways and claims that his philosophy of life can't be printed. But what about whispering it into our ear, Rich?

JIM ANDREW also joined the Commission in June. He is a senior analyst in the Paratransit section reporting to Ray Maekawa. A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Jim



earned a bachelor's in Urban Planning from the U of Cincinnati and formerly was director of transportation for the Louisville chapter of the American Red Cross. In his new position, Jim is responsible for coordinating social service system trips. He will work directly with agencies to identify cost-saving transportation measures, improve inter-agency coordination, and design contracts for agencies proposing to offer transportation services jointly. Jim lives in San Pedro and is single. He enjoys golf, canoeing, rafting,

and traveling. His favorites include hamburgers, Hunter S. Thompson and Tom Wolfe, the Southern California sound of Jackson Browne, "The Big Chill" and "Animal House," and the beach or mountains where he normally spends his vacations. Jim lists no pet peeves and does not provide a quotation that sums up his philosophy of life--which must mean that this mild-mannered analyst is going to wait awhile before he reveals his "true colors."

A records manager came on board during June, signalling to oldtime staffers that times are changing and we're getting more organized. DENNIS HEIDBRECHT runs the newly created records management center--a huge room located by the reproduction center on the second floor which now consists of Dennis and his desk. That space soon will begin filling, however, with computer discs, correspondence and other paper staffers generate. A person with Dennis's skills became necessary as the agency grew--nearly threefold in four years. A data-processing expert, Dennis has set up records management systems for government agencies in Scotland, Iraq, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates for their engineering and accounting functions. Dennis was reared in Venice, California and now lives in Huntington Beach with his wife and his wife's pets. The Heidebrechts have grown children and are proud grandparents to three youngsters. Dennis enjoys teriyaki, top sirloin steak, Joseph Heller novels, Herb Alpert, "Blue Max," "Top Gun" and is still looking for his favorite vacation spot. As to his philosophy of life, Dennis believes that time is nature's way of keeping everything from happening at once.



Oblivious to the dreaded Curse of Community Relations (see "Did You Know...?", page 13), on June 30 RICK GOMEZ happily joined Robin's crew as a bilingual CR specialist. ("¡Me

alegro muchísimo!" said Anita Rives in Communications.) A

Continued
on next page



San Diegan, Rick now commutes 130 miles each way via Amtrak—he says their lousy service is his current pet peeve—so he and his family obviously need a new place to live pronto, somewhere within reasonable driving distance of 8th and Hill. Be sure to let Rick know if you hear of anything. Rick's most interesting

jobs before this were radio announcer and concert promoter, both part of his duties as a PR practitioner. He attended San Diego's National University before launching his career. Some of Rick's favorites are: food, Chinese; authors, Alvin Toffler (of Future Shock fame) and Hemingway; music, jazz/rock/Latin; filmmaker, Hitchcock; and vacation, Acapulco.

Also starting on June 30 was JOSE MESA, who joins us as Personnel Officer. José will be responsible for recruitment and selection of employees, as well as affirmative action, employee relations, labor negotiations, administration of all our paychecks, and other such crucial functions. Notice how Finance and Admin got him on board just in time to handle the brou-ha-ha over the new policy about flex days/payroll schedules; this incendiary issue will be Jose's trial by fire, as it were. José grew up in East L.A., earned his B.A. from Cal State Univ., and went to work for the City of Pico Rivera until we grabbed him. He's now at work on an MPA from Cal Poly in Pomona, meanwhile living in Covina with his wife Becky, daughter Lisa, and cat Sushi (whose nickname is "Worthless"). José lists his hobbies as swimming, racquetball, girl-watching, and Dodger and Angel games. As for his philosophy of life, try these: "If you can't dance, you're no friend of mine!" "If you can't be good, be better!" "Expect the unexpected!" and "Learn to laugh and have fun!" Olé, José!



The Rail Development Division has been rather lagging behind the others, for a change, hiring only one new staffperson this quarter: Rail Development Officer SUSAN ROSALES, who joined Richard Stanger's section on the 4th floor at the end of April. Susan will be helping Richard to prepare something called "scopes of work" for LACTC's future rail transit projects, especially the Lincoln



Heights line and SFV Vineland extension, plus doing some consultant supervising and coordinating our right-of-way protection efforts. Susan grew up in San Diego and got her B.A. and M.A. at UC-LA. Back in 82, Susan interned in our High-way/TSM Programs Section. "I knew Cindy, Annette, Elyse, Pat, Paul and Rick," she says, "but most of the people are new since then." In a vain attempt to escape her fate, Susan fled to the East Coast for awhile, working in Fairfax County, Virginia, as a Metro Project planner. Now that she's come to her senses, she and husband Dan Mayeda ("We both kept our maiden names,") live in Culver City, where she spends her non-working hours doing calligraphy and other graphic arts, playing the guitar and piano, and designing fabulous interiors for their brand-new house. Susan's pet peeve is intolerance; she likes all music but opera, all foods beginning with "c" (crab, chocolate, etc.) and any European vacation.

LARRY WARTELS, a Ph.D candidate in urban planning at UCLA, began working as an intern to Sharon Neely's transit section in June. You can find Larry hunched over the computer terminal on the sixth floor where he is plugging data into Lotus programs and into the short-range transit plan. Larry also is responsible for summarizing methodologies used in creating an operations plan for a dual-mode transit agency.

MOVING UP...

Just missing our last issue was news that longtime Finance and Admin staffer ANNETTE HONDA MENDOZA had been promoted from Secretary to Senior Secretary on April 3. Annette has been with the Commission over four and a half years, admirably performing "a wide variety of administrative and personnel-support functions" as the catch-all phrase goes. Annette works in the west wing of the 5th floor with Murphy, Glenda, Sharon, et al. You can read more about Annette, and see her photo, in this issue's "Meet Your Co-Workers" feature.

Talk about being the last to know...while ED McSPEDON was away at the APTA rail transit conference, he was pronounced the new Project Manager for the Long Beach-Los Angeles rail transit line. Construction Manager John Adams had been keeping chaos at bay since the departure of Dan Caufield; Ed took over on June 16. Ed has artfully dodged all my attempts to get him to fill out our "Who Are You?" form--no easy feat,



as any new employee will attest--so I can only assume he hasn't figured out who he is yet. His departmental bio reveals the following: Master's degree in civil engineering from Manhattan College in New York, 5-1/2 years as an engineer with the NYC Transit Authority, and 3-1/2 years as a program manager with UMTA. After that he became senior project engineer and office manager for the engineering firm of Gibbs & Hill from whence we snatched him in January '85. Once here, he proved himself quickly as a capable and genial manager for the Century Rail Transit Project, so that now (no rest for the willing) he gets to prove himself all over again as the LB-LA line shifts into high gear. "It won't be easy to fill Dan's biker-boots," said the now-elusive Mr. McSpedon when I finally managed to reach him for a quote, "especially as he took them with him to New York; but we have such a great staff, I expect they'll make me look good no matter what."



JUDY NORMAN assumed the position of senior analyst in the Local Return section effective July. Most recently, Judy was an analyst reporting to Pat Van Matre. She joined the Commission in October as an analyst in the Transit section and worked for Sharon Neely. Judy's transit experience extends to the RTD, where she worked in the planning department. Judy distinguishes herself once more this month

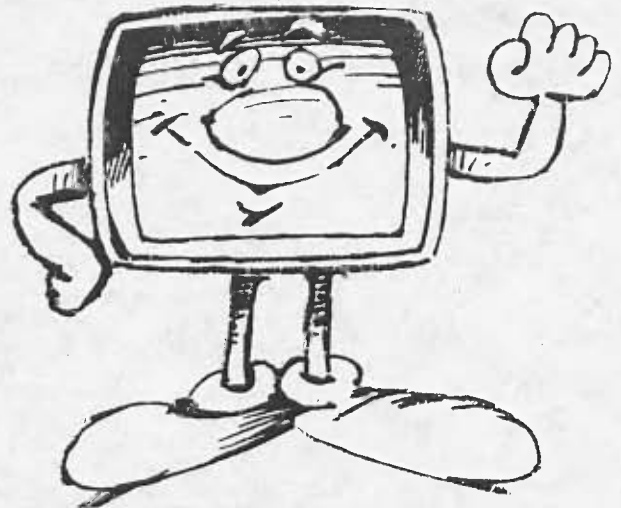
for having appeared in the most consecutive issues of "Inside Moves." Incidentally, our lazy staff chose to run the same picture of Judy in all three issues, making hers the most popular face at the Commission.

Congratulations to Annette, Ed, and Judy, from all the rest of us (who hope to follow you into this section soon).

Congratulations!



VIDEOS FOR FREE RENTAL



The Communications Section (5th floor) has a 43-volume video library that you may want to peruse. Some tapes are of our own activities; some come from other properties. Consider these current selections:

- * Goin' to Town: Vancouver's Skytrain
- * Portland's light rail on Burnside
- * Massage Instruction for Beginners
- * Long Beach Transit
- * LA County's Transportation Story

We also have a color tv and VHS-VCR on roll-away stand for easy viewing. You are welcome to borrow the equipment for use in the building.

The library is growing, and you can help build our resources. When you're out and about, and see a good-quality videotape about a transportation issue that concerns us, find out if we could borrow the tape and make a copy of it. Also, our tv reception is poor in this building, so if you would ever like to tape something from television on your VCR at home that pertains to the Commission, we would love to have it and will replace your tape.

To review the entire LACTC video collection, visit Erica Goebel's office, and consult the blue notebook on her desk.

Videos for lunch, anyone? ●

THE "INSIDE MOVES" STAFF

Publisher: Erica Goebel

Editors/Writers: Ann Reeves, Usha Viswanathan

Graphics: The really great stuff - Larry Gallagher and Leon Cooksey; thanks to Usha and Deana, who each did a page; rest, Ann.

Photos: LACTC Bears team - Bob Minahan; SCRC Royals team + baseball action - Julie Leivas; rest, Usha and Ann.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GUEST WRITERS FOR THIS ISSUE: LARRY, OLGA, ERICA, RICHARD STANGER, AND JUNE LEIVAS OF SCRC.

We welcome your submissions. Call us and pitch your story idea. Prominent by-lines given. Volunteers also wanted for "Meet Your Co-Workers." Anyone hired before July 1985 who has not been featured before is eligible.

The Care and Feeding of Graficks



L-R: Graphic artists Leon Cooksey and Larry Gallagher, battered but satisfied, after defending the honor of their graphics from brutal treatment by callous staffpeople.

Can you tell the difference between the work of LACTC graphic artists, Larry Gallagher and Leon Cooksey? Whose style emphasizes clean, simple lines and bold splashes of color? Who's the pen-and-ink illustrator? Which one of these two gentlemen has the best air-brush technique? One sticks with rubber cement, the other waxes eloquently over wax. Does the inhalation of spray-mount fumes account for the duo's peculiar humor?

The answer is they are two highly talented graphic artists with 60 years of experience between them. Their skills are complementary, not identical, as are their personalities. Larry responds to an unusual assignment by saying "When you get two graphic artists together . . ." and ends with, "we'll come up with some ideas." At this point, Leon will look at his partner and quip, "Good luck."

Both are perfectionists and above all visually oriented. They take great pride in portraying the LACTC's image. Which brings us to the subject of fingerprints, dirty dishes, and what happens when the meeting's over. See if you can figure out what Larry and Leon were talking about:

"Maybe if people realized how many hours go into making them."
 "I see them a couple of months after they've left here, and dirty fingerprints . . . all along the sides, where people carry them."
 "Foam core is light, but it's also brittle, so it cracks."
 "You know what happens when the meeting's over . . ."
 "They look good when they leave here, but then . . ."
 "You know what it's like? It's like going into a restaurant and seeing dirty dishes. If our audiences have to look at ragged, . . ."

"You ever see what happens in the summer? You leave them in your car, in the sun?"
 "Yeah, well, they bubble. But I still think that after the meeting . . ."
 "It's because after a meeting . . ."
 "I've tried everything to remove fingerprints. You know, nothing works?"
 "Yeah, I know."
 "Look."
 "I can't look now. I don't want to smudge the ink."
 "Well, what I'm saying is the only way to get rid of the fingerprints is to trim off the edges."
 "Then pretty soon . . ."
 "Right, You've got this thin, little piece."
 "Well, people should try to use the black carrying cases. And get wrapping paper from Sylvia and wrap them if they plan to carry them out of the cases."
 "And try not to put them in hot cars."
 "Or stolen ones."
 "Right, You know I think people are so happy that the meeting is finally over, that they rush out to the car and throw them in, and that's when they get smashed on the corners, and cracked right down the middle."
 "It hurts to see them all bent."
 "With fingerprints."
 "If people were just a little more careful."
 "I hope they will be."

--Erica Goebel



PROFILE: SCRC

"SCRC is the Commission's designer for the Long Beach to Los Angeles Rail Transit Project," explains SCRC's Deputy Project Director George Swede. "We're also referred to as the GEC or General Engineering Consultant, a term used interchangeably with designer."

SCRC stands for Southern California Rail Consultants, the name given to a joint-venture made up of Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas, a firm of architects/engineers/planners; Daniel Mann Johnson & Mendenhall (DMJM or "DimJim"), ditto; and Kaiser Engineers (California) Corporation.

If these names sound familiar, you're either involved in the LB-LA project yourself or you've got great recall of our last issue's "Consultants Who's Who," where we featured a profile of the joint-venture called Transit Construction Management (TCM). Both DMJM and Parsons Brinckerhoff are part of TCM, along with North Pacific Construction Management; and TCM works "in association with" Kaiser Engineers (California) Corp. DMJM and PB have some staffpeople working on the TCM side and others working on the SCRC side.

Are You Experienced?

SCRC's member firms certainly have the credentials needed for the job. "Parsons Brinckerhoff, Kaiser, and DMJM are probably the three largest engineering firms in transit design and construction," says Swede. "Parsons was involved in BART and the Atlanta subway system, DMJM worked on the system in Baltimore, and Kaiser did most of work on Miami Transit's system--just as some illustrative examples."

Closer to home, the SCRTD has hired the same three firms, plus the additional firm of Harry Weiss and Associates, in a four-way joint-venture as GEC known as Metro Rail Transit Consultants (MRTC).

"Over at SCRTD, there is very little remaining work for the GEC--most of design is finished," says Swede, "and SCRTD decided to hire a different joint-venture to serve as construction manager whereas here we have TCM, which has pretty much the same firms as SCRC."



SCRC's George Swede

People and Places

There are 110 SCRC staffers in this building, mostly on floors eight through 11. In addition, they have about 200-300 subconsultants working on our project, with certain pieces of work being done by the joint-venture firms back in their home offices.

Space doesn't allow us to list every SCRCer by name, so we'll name just a few key players, especially those who interact with our staff. In addition to Swede, top SCRCers include Project Director Simon Zweigart, Director of Project Development Frank Hearne, Director of Administration Margaret Fausz, and Equipment Procurement Manager Albert Scala. SCRC division managers also deal extensively with LACTC staff: Director of Project Control Division Gene Burkman, Director of Technical Services Division George Stanske, Director of Facilities Project Engineering Division Chris Andersen, Director of Project Integration Division Diane Kravif, and Director of System Design Division Maury Sulkin.

Key subcontractors include the firm of Lewis T. Klauder, who is preparing the vehicle specs; we see a lot of John Gustufson, Ray Volmer, and John Landell. Morrison-Knudson is designing the overhead catenary system, and their Gary Griggs deals quite a bit with Norm Jester and other Commission staff. Wes Leas of Wes Leas & Associates is important in the area of fare collection. Kaiser Engineers is designing the traction power system, and a key player in that firm is Rey Belardo. Many LACTCers are familiar with Myra Frank and Joan Kugler, of Myra Frank and Associates, environmental consultants.

Getting Involved

SCRC's relationship with LACTC really goes back to 1981, when Parsons Brinckerhoff and Kaiser Engineers were in a two-firm joint-venture that worked on conceptual studies and environmental impact documents for the LB-LA project. As a separate entity, SCRC was created in late 1984--when DMJM came into the picture--in order to bring its experience to the project.

LACTC authorized SCRC to begin the GEC Program after the Commission authorized the LB-LA project in March 1985. Their contract, which is renewed annually, will total about \$64 million over the course of the next four to five years, until the LB-LA line is finished. Each year SCRC submits an annual work program that includes an estimate of the amount of money they are going to need for the upcoming year. They are now into the second year's annual work program.

SCRC has a management board composed of senior vice-presidents from the three joint-venture firms: Marty Rubin of PB, Jerry Sealman from DMJM, and Steve Kaufman from Kaiser. This board meets monthly to assess SCRC's performance and progress, and to provide direction, as necessary. Unlike LACTC, however, every member of SCRC's board is also a functioning member of its staff.

Designer's Duties

"We and our subconsultants are preparing all of the plans and specifications to bid the construction work and purchase of equipment--all the goods and services making up the project," Swede explains. "Within the very broad term 'designer' are many, many technical disciplines: architects who design stations and specify light fixtures, floor coverings, finishings, color schemes, handrails, etcetera; mechanical engineers for heating, ventilation, cooling--of cars, stations,

Continued on next page



SOME KEY SCRCers: L-R, back row, Chris Andersen, Frank Hearne, Simon Zweigaft, Margaret Fausz, Maury Sulkin, Gene Burkman. L-R, front row: System Project Manager Marius Bejan, George Stankse, George Swede, Diane Kravif.

facilities; track engineers, who decide what type of running rail to use, what sort of ties--concrete or wood, what kind of special fasteners should be used to attach the rails to the ties; signal engineers who develop train-protection signal systems to ensure that trains do not collide with one another; propulsion engineers who specify the propulsion equipment for the cars; car people who prepare the specifications for rail cars. All these people work very closely with Norm Jester and his staff, Ed Richardson and his staff, John Adams and his staff, and so on."

Hand in Glove

SCRC people generate these designs, then send them to LACTC staffpeople working in the corresponding area (cars, tracks, stations, and so on). "As stewards of the Commission's funds, your staff, together with the Rail Construction Committee, try to ensure that the designs are cost effective," Swede says. "Quite often they will say to us, 'Tell us different ways you could design this bridge. Should it be steel or concrete? If concrete, should it be cast in place or precast? Tell us the design options, and tell us what the cost and scheduling implications of the different options are.' It's an iterative process, where the design progresses through increased refinements."

One of the SCRC's first duties was to figure out the different construction bid-packages that would ultimately be awarded--to buy ties, switches, ballast, vehicles, a communications system, and so on. They next moved into the preliminary engineering phase, which typically represents about 30 percent of the effort expended toward preparing a set of construction bid documents. After a design review by Commission staff and concerned

outside agencies and the community-at-large, SCRC moved into detailed design. Other design reviews occur at about the 60-percent level, the 85-percent level, and the 100-percent level.

Is Everybody Happy?

One of the biggest challenges of a major public-works project such as the LB-LA line is meeting the requirements of all the outside agencies that have areas of responsibility impacted by the project. In addition to cities and political jurisdictions, these include such bodies as the utility companies, Flood Control District, Corps of Engineers, Fire-Life-Safety Committee, and Public Utilities Commission. These agencies ensure that designers and transit planners do not do things to jeopardize the public safety. According to Swede, "The California Public Utilities Commission requires, for instance, that the overhead wire has got to be so many feet above the ground. Or the gates must come down so many seconds before a train approaches an at-grade crossing."

Working Out

What will happen to the busy hoardes of SCRCers and their subcontractors after the LB-LA line is fully designed?

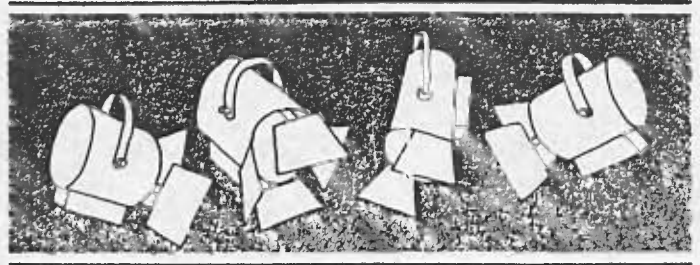
"Our design work will be just about finished in another year or so," Swede says. "We'll start downstaffing over the course of the next several weeks. By the time this project's construction is finished, there will probably only be four or five people around from SCRC. Unless LACTC asks us to stay on and work on another project, we would shut this office down and disperse, going on to another job. That's the very nature what we do: we work our way out of business." ●



SECRETARY'S KORNER

by Olga Phillips

Secretary, Community Relations,
LB-LA Project



(Editor's Note: We apologize to Olga, who wrote her column based on an early publication date--pre 7/15--which slipped and made the following piece about Maria not as timely as she originally planned.)

Secretary's Spotlight

This issue of Secretary's Korner spotlights Maria White, Commission Receptionist, if we can find her....

HASN'T IT BEEN A JOKE LONG ENOUGH?

While sitting at the P.C. composing, I began observing the funny "Secretary Burnout" cartoon character that I colored and mounted on the back of a poster that reads, "I'M NOT SUPER HUMAN". The focal points made me laugh, at first, but as I looked on I began thinking to myself, "that's not funny at all." As a matter of fact I found it rather disappointing.

Secretaries have been joked about much too long, (fortunately though, not by everyone) and to counteract this "Secretary Burnout Syndrome", (which consequently I've found non-motivating) I've torn down my cartoon and installed in its place: proficiency, dedication, determination and most importantly, **PROFESSIONALISM**. My hope is that these confirmations will arouse positive thought patterns in my own secretarial motivation as well as a new secretarial outlook; after all, can't we take it? I'm talking about the stress and pressure, rewrites retypes, deciphering of poor handwriting and all the other negatives this poster has to offer, except of course the bit about low pay, there's no joking there! Let's not be stereotyped! (Remember how long it took to get someone else to turn on the coffee pot?)

No Joke!



I encourage you to take down your cartoon poster (if you have one) and exchange it with your own **POSITIVE** secretarial outlook!

It's a small world...but I would'nt want to paint it!

WHERE IS MARIA?

Well, you won't find her on the 5th floor at the receptionist desk these days, because she's spending most of her time on the 2nd floor in our new Administrative Services section as **SECRETARY IN TRAINING** to Cindy Kondo. Nice going Maria! Hope your training goes well. In case you didn't know, Maria White has been the voice of the Commission for just about 4 years. She is one of the most pleasant, hardworking people I've ever known and is, I'm sure, more than deserving of this long awaited step up the LACTC ladder. Maria, we'll be looking forward to officially welcoming you into the ranks of the LACTC secretarial staff..... soon!

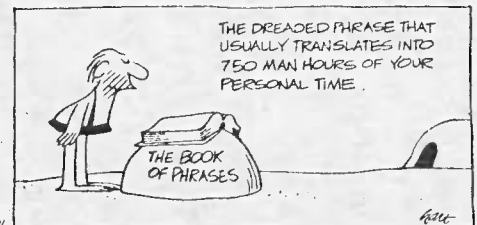


BEFORE I GO.....

I'd like to extend a secretarial **WELCOME** to Paola Macchi-Nuzum, Secretary to Ray Maekawa, Paratransit Programs, and a secretarial **CONGRATULATIONS** to Mrs. Annette H. Mendoza on her newly acquired Senior Secretarial Position in Finance & Administration, not to mention her wonderful **NEW** name.



B.C. By Johnny Hart
"GOT A MINUTE?"



YOUR FIRST HELLO ... AND YOUR LAST GOODNIGHT

By E. Goebel

JIMMY STEWART is our building's morning security guard. He arrives at the Garfield from his nearby home at 7th St. and Union, and opens up for the early birds at 6:30 a.m. Jimmy came to Los Angeles in 1975; he joined the security firm, UNITEC, in 1979. Originally from Florida, where he was a cabinetmaker, he makes trips back to visit his 78-year-old dad, some of his siblings, and his two teenage sons, 16 and 14, from a former marriage. Jimmy likes his job because it gives him time to study the Bible, and he "gets to meet a lot of people." He wouldn't mind getting more money for the job, but . . . wouldn't we all give that answer when pressed. In his free time, Jimmy goes fishing, plays tennis and walks a lot for exercise. He works the first shift, ending at 2:30 p.m. because he's been with the company longer than our afternoon/evening guard.

SINGULAR SPECS

Even the most technical subjects can be entertaining--as our own **Bob Minahan** proved recently when he put together a paper called "Better Specifications for Procurement & Construction," which he presented at the APTA Rapid Transit Conference in Miami last month. Bob dressed up his document with samples of unusual and all-too-usual specs, as the following excerpts attest.

"PREPARATION FOR THE FLOOD"

"MAKE YOURSELF AN ARK OF GOPHERWOOD, PUT VARIOUS COMPARTMENTS IN IT, AND COVER IT INSIDE AND OUT WITH PITCH. THIS IS HOW YOU SHALL BUILD IT; THE LENGTH OF THE ARK SHALL BE THREE HUNDRED CUBITS, ITS WIDTH FIFTY CUBITS, AND ITS HEIGHT THIRTY CUBITS. MAKE AN OPENING DAYLIGHT IN THE ARK, AND FINISH THE ARK A CUBIT ABOVE IT. PUT AN ENTRANCE IN THE SIDE OF THE ARK, WHICH YOU SHALL MAKE WITH BOTTOM, SECOND AND THIRD DECKS."

--Book of Genesis
Chap. 6, Verses 14-15

"PLAN OF THE ARK"

"YOU SHALL MAKE AN ARK OF ACACIA WOOD, TWO AND A HALF CUBITS LONG, AND ONE AND A HALF CUBITS WIDE, AND ONE AND HALF CUBITS HIGH. PLATE IT INSIDE AND OUTSIDE WITH PURE GOLD, AND PUT A MOLDING OF GOLD AROUND THE TOP OF IT. CAST FOUR GOLD RINGS AND FASTEN THEM ON THE FOUR SUPPORTS OF THE ARK, TWO RINGS ON ONE SIDE AND TWO ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE. THEN MAKE POLES OF ACACIA WOOD AND PLATE THEM WITH GOLD. THESE POLES YOU ARE TO PUT THROUGH THE RINGS ON THE SIDES OF THE ARK, FOR CARRYING IT; THEY MUST REMAIN IN THE RINGS OF THE ARK AND NEVER BE WITHDRAWN. IN THE ARK YOU ARE TO PUB THE COMMANDMENTS WHICH I WILL GIVE YOU."

--Exodus
Chaps. 25-28

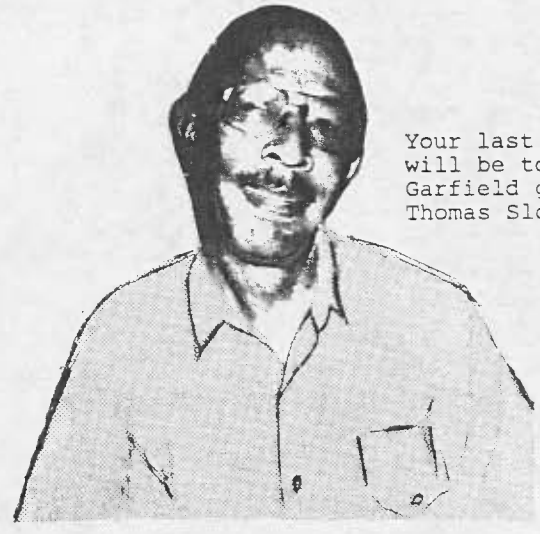
more 

Gregarious THOMAS SLOAN lives on 85th St. in Los Angeles. He's been with the company about nine months, and in the security business "off and on", including a stint with the state department of corrections in Pasadena. But, it's his 21 and a half years in the U.S. Navy that he'll tell you about if you stop to swap job tales. Born in land-locked Piqua, Ohio, Thomas went on to a naval career as an electrician in Hawaii, Bangkok, Japan and Alaska. He's worked on a tanker, destroyer, and fleet tug. Nowadays his favorite past time is hunting and fishing, and he likes Alaska because it fulfills his outdoor hobbies best.

Thomas says his job lets him meet "friendly, beautiful people." He likes to be active on the job, so he helps out the building manager, Tony, as much as possible.

If you're working late and want to make sure you're not locked up over night -- the building closes at 8:30 p.m. -- leave your door open or give Thomas a phone call, so he can give you an "all out, locking up" yell when he checks the floors.

"I know just about everyone in the building," he says, and he knows who the hard workers are too. ●



Your last goodbye will be to and from Garfield guard Thomas Sloan.

RECIPE FOR ERROR

The Way an Engineer Would Write It...

"Walnuts, dates, soda and salt of the respective types and qualities as specified hereinbefore shall be mixed in a suitable vessel. Approved shortening and potable water shall then be added. Mixing shall be done with a fork of suitable design and weight. After mixing has been completed, the combined ingredients shall be allowed to stand undisturbed for a period of 20 minutes. An oven of suitable design and capacity shall be used for heating. It shall be ignited and set a temperature of 350 degrees F. While oven is heating, a 9-inch by 5-inch by 3-inch loaf pan of suitable and approved type shall be greased thoroughly. Eggs specified hereinbefore shall be beaten with the specified fork. Vanilla,

Continued on page 11

MEET YOUR CO-WORKERS

Name: MARIO R. GUZMAN
 Started with LACTC:
 June 1984
 Current position: Systems
 Engineer
 Division: Rail Transit, 3rd
 floor
 Principal responsibilities:
 Direct and coordinate
 consultants and
 contractors in the
 engineering and construc-
 tion of rail systems.
 Last job and most
 interesting job before LACTC:
 Designed and built a
 coal-gasification power
 plant in Barstow, CA
 Grew up in: Valparaiso,
 Chile



Education: Electrical Engineer, UTFSM, Valparaiso (Chile);
 Univ. of Texas, Austin
 Home life: Los Angeles (Wilshire Center) with my wife
 Clarita. Two girls in college: Viviana - Rice University,
 Houston; Susana, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Viviana is
 a flautist (see "Did You Know...?") and Susana is
 studying architecture.

Hobbies: Handyman around the house; reading; dancing.

Favorites:

food -- Seafood
 author -- Ayn Rand
 music -- Classical
 filmmaker -- Walt Disney
 vacation -- Viña Del Mar

Quote: "If you want to find your own happiness,
 look for the happiness of others."



Name: ALAN E. PATASHNICK
 Started with LACTC:
 October 1982

Current title/position:
 Senior Analyst/Local
 Assistance
 Division: Programming
 & Fiscal Analysis,
 6th floor

Most interesting job
 before LACTC: Caddy
 (caddied for Sec'y
 of State George
 Schultz).

Grew up in: North
 Adams, Mass.

Education: BA, Political
 Science, U. of Vermont;
 MPA, Northeastern U.,
 Boston, MA

Home life: Single, living
 in Brentwood; no pets.

Hobbies: Movies, golf, physical exercise, visiting
 museums, talking to my niece and nephew.

Favorites:

food-- Turkey club, Indian pudding, sweet potatoes.
 authors-- Earl Thompson and Bob Ryan (Boston Globe
 basketball writer)
 music-- rock, jazz, saxophone and piano solos
 movie or
 filmmaker-- "Casablanca"/Alfred Hitchcock

Pet Peeve-- People who refuse to swallow their pride and
 say that they are sorry; people who smoke in
 crowded areas or in restaurants; loud, ill-
 mannered and inconsiderate people.

Quotes-- (1) "Never for the sake of compromise deny
 your own experiences or convictions."
 --Dag Haamerskjold

(2) "If you tell the truth, you never have
 to remember anything."
 --Mark Twain

(3) "The two words that should be deleted
 from the dictionary are 'guilt' and
 'regret'; the one word that should be
 underlined, 'forgiveness.'"
 --Me



Name: ANNETTE H. MENDOZA
 Started with LACTC:
 September 1981
 Current position: Senior
 Secretary
 Division: Finance &
 Administration, 5th flr.
 Principal responsibilities:
 Taking messages for
 Cindy, distributing new
 telephone extension
 sheets to staff, taking
 messages for Cindy,
 looking for Murphy,
 taking messages for
 Cindy.



Grew up in: Carlsbad, CA
 Where? It's about 30
 miles north of San
 Diego on the coast.

Education: Enough units to
 obtain my associate
 of arts degree. Ran out of money to pursue any
 further.

Home life: I live at the Commission; however, I do
 spend some time in Downey with my husband on weekends.

Hobbies: Snow skiing, spending money, traveling in the
 U.S. (from LA to Sacramento to Vegas to Houston to
 Washington, D.C.).

Favorites:

food -- Anything that doesn't move when it's on
 your plate.
 author -- I don't read.
 music -- Danceable
 movie -- "9 to 5"
 vacation -- Snow skiing in Tahoe, sunbathing on
 tropical beaches, sipping Margaritas in
 Mexico (NOT MORE THAN ONE, BELIEVE ME).

Pet Peeve -- People who know how to talk too much but
 never listen.



Name: RICK RICHMOND
 Started with LACTC: March 1978
 Current position: Executive Director
 Principal Responsibilities: Reading agendas before they are one month out of date; acting like Scrooge with the staff; talking on the phone; attending meetings; occasionally trying to direct our efforts toward our naively laudable goals.
 Last job and most interesting job before LACTC: Giving away transit money for the federal government.
 (Would you say I'm a rut?)
 Grew up in: Los Altos, CA
 Education: Stanford, B.A. (in retrospect it should have been a B.S.); USC, M.P.A.
 Home life: Altadena with equally exhausted wife Salma, four energetic kids and one puppy.
 Hobbies: After work, kids, and collapsing. I don't seem to have time for much (embarrassed to say.)
 Favorites:
 food -- Mexican
 author -- Dr. Seuss and LACTC memo writers (are there others?)
 music -- Country/western in limited doses.
 movie or filmmaker -- (Hopelessly out of movie watching.)
 vacation -- Love one; who'll take the kids?
 Pet Peeve -- Philosophies of life.
 Quote -- None come to mind. I have a terrible memory for such things.



Name: RALPH AVILA
 Started with LACTC: October 1984
 Current position: Analyst
 Division: Programming & Fiscal Analysis, 6th floor
 Principal responsibilities: Generally include: day-to-day administration of Proposition A local return revenues; handle processing of project approvals; provide technical assistance to local jurisdictions in planning, implementing, and administering local transit projects. And other things that may find their way into our section.



Last job before LACTC:
 Transportation Planner at Caltrans
 Grew up in: Los Angeles, CA
 Education: MA, Urban Planning, UCLA
 Home life: Live in L.A. with my brother. I'm usually found in Riverside during the weekends visiting my mom and dad.
 Hobbies: Going to ball games and drinking beer.
 Favorites:
 food -- Seafood, Mexican, Chinese, and of course, popcorn.
 music -- Everything except country and heavy metal.

filmmaker -- Enjoy all action-packed movies.
 vacation -- Anywhere affordable.
 Pet Peeve -- Not being able to drink alcohol without sneezing the next day.

Name: ERICA GOEBEL
 Started with LACTC: Fall of 1983
 Current position: Manager of Communications/Graphics
 Division: G&PA, 5th flr.
 Principal Roles: Editor, traffic coordinator, creative director, media contact, special projects writer, supervisor.
 Last job before LACTC: SCAG communications officer
 Most interesting job before LACTC: Herald Examiner reporter.
 Grew up in: Pasadena, CA
 Education: John Muir High; UCLA, English major, BA



Home life: I live in Silverlake hills with husband, Tim Douglas, who is SCAG's marketing director.
 Hobbies: Gardening (I like mixing Calif. natives, annuals, and perennials); back-packing in the Sierras away from everyone, camping by our "own" lake; going on picnics with family and friends; bike-riding up Mt. Drive in Santa Barbara; and I love to read.
 Latest accomplishment -- Made a king-size quilt.
 Favorites:
 book of all times -- Wuthering Heights; current favorite, Anne Tyler's Accidental Tourist
 daydream -- Rolling down a grassy hill.
 vacation -- 3 months in Paris, 1982
 Pet Peeve: We don't get 3 months of summer vacation any more.
 Quote: "He was born with the gift of laughter, and the sense that the world was mad."
 (First line from novel Scaramouche by Sabatini.)

SPECS, cont. from page 9

sugar and flour shall then be thoroughly beaten into the eggs in a proper manner. The specified mixture of walnuts, dates, soda and salt shall then be placed in the loaf pan and baked. Baking shall continue at least 1 hour and 5 minutes or until mixture is completely baked. The baked mixture shall be allowed to cool in the pan for 10 minutes and then removed. It shall be allowed to cool overnight before slicing is permitted."

RECIPE FOR ACTION

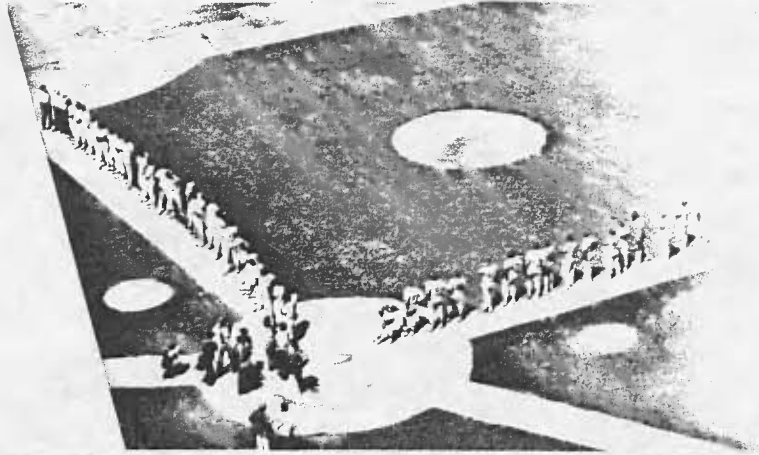
The Way a Cook Would Write It...

"With fork, mix walnuts, dates, soda, salt. Add shortening, water; let stand 20 minutes. Start heating oven to 350 degrees F. Grease 9" x 5" x 3" loaf pan. With fork, beat eggs; beat in vanilla, sugar, flour. Mix in date mixture until just blended; turn into pan. Bake 1 hr. 5 min. or until done. Cool in pan 10 min.; remove. Cool overnight before slicing." ●



THE SOCIAL SCENE

LACTC's TRADITIONAL DODGER DAY, organized this year by Cindy Kondo, found over 30 staffers and as many or more of their guests attending the Dodgers' sold-out opening day. We hear Ralph Avila alone brought 11 friends and relatives. Everyone wore winter clothes for what turned out to be a very summery day, so the roasted peanuts had a lot of company. Cindy and buddy Ilda Licón disendear (hey-- if we can have "disinform" we can have "disendear," right?) themselves by throwing peanuts around. Cindy says the most unforgettable part of the day was the half-hour-plus she spent in line for food. The seats were off in Never-Never Land ("We'll never never sit there again," vows baseball fan Bob Minahan), but it was great to see the Dodgers trounce the San Diego Padres.

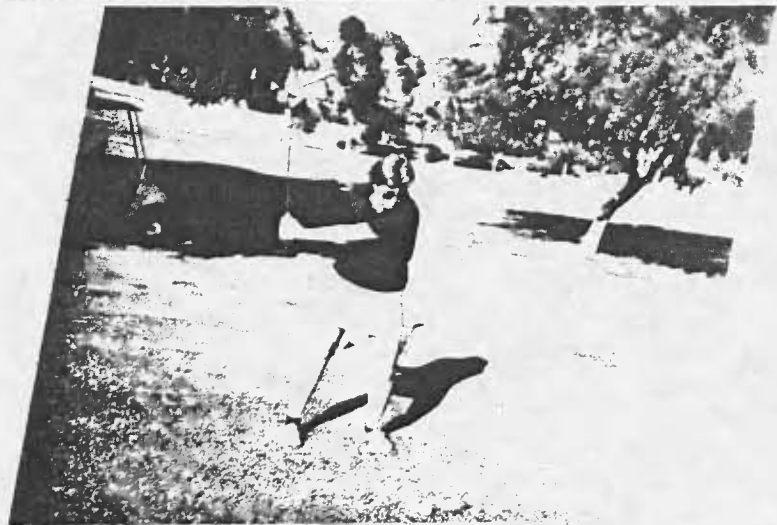


ATTENDING 'HAIR' on April 26 were Bob Minahan & wife Tina plus two guests; Claudette Moody; Leon Cooksey and ladyfriend Karen; Ann Reeves with Richard and his two children; Deana Burton and daughter Tanya; and of course, Larry Gallagher and wife Marie, proud parents of Matt the drummer. Right behind this LACTC contingent I spotted SM Mayor Chris Reed, whose daughter will attend St. Monica's next year. These high-school performers were terrific, with lots of energy and heart and really good singing voices plus absolutely top-notch musicians (Matt plus two guitarists). The "images of the '60s" slide shows on either side of the stage during the singing/dancing numbers were very moving for those of us who really did live through that era.

GEROGE LIVINGSTON'S GOLF DAY, Saturday, May 10, turned out to be a big hit, attracting a total of 22 intrepid golfers. Teeing off along with George were staffers Al Patashnick, Larry Gallagher (with son Kevin), Mary Lou Echternach, Bob Minahan (now there's a man you can count on at a social event), Ed Richardson, Sharon Neely (with her husband Tim), Walt Stephenson, Duane Eubanks, and even our E.D. himself, Rick Richmond. Plus I hear a number of SCRCers, TCMers, and other consultants dusted off their clubs for the event, on what turned out to be a gorgeous day.

A tough course in Pomona gave everyone a good workout and a higher score than usual. Sharon got "high gross," meaning, for all us non-golfers, that she chalked up more strokes than anyone else with a total of 147. "But it was the first time I'd played for real, keeping score and all," points out Sharon. Her prize was a mounted \$5 bill autographed by all the witnesses to her perseverance in finishing the game after scoring 81 in the first nine holes. Larry's Number Two Son, Kevin, won the "closest to the pin" contest, by teeing off to within 11'1" of the little flagpole (that's the "pin") on the 15th hole.

Other notable feats of the event included Al's winning "closest to pin #7," Bob's winning "low net," Walt's winning "most putts," MRTC's A. Sanderson winning "low gross," and SCRC's George Swede's winning "least putts"--though what exactly some of those mean, you'd have to ask a golfer.

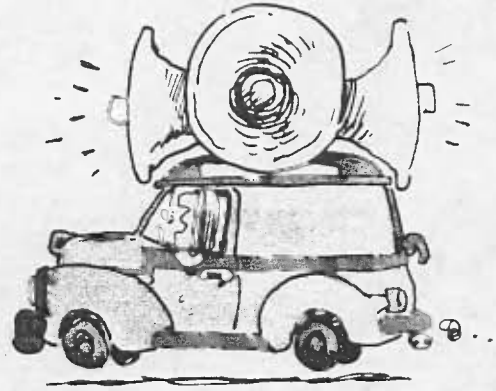


One of the most spectacular shots of the day was Mary Lou's on hole nine: the green was so hard, her ball shot off the green, across a street and hit a bus-stop. On the same hole, Bob "read the greens" better when he hit a moving car with his ball, which then bounced back onto the green. Naturally Bob said, "I played it that way on purpose." And last but not least, we hear that a certain foursome consisting of Rick, Walt, George Swede (SCRC), and Gene Burkman (TCM) spent so much time looking for balls that the group behind them decided to present said foursome with enough golf balls to keep the next game moving faster.

Continued on page 16

DID YOU KNOW...?

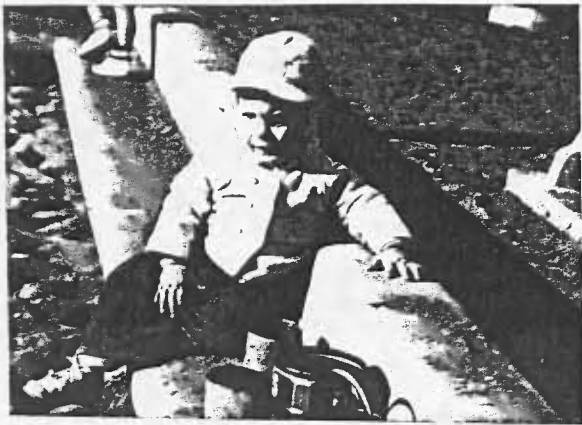
Former staffer **Linda (Pendlebury) (Zuniga) Bohlinger** spent only a few months in the Sacramento version of SCAG before snagging the impressive position of assistant executive director of the California Transportation Commission (CTC); see what the future can hold when you learn the ropes at LACTC? When Linda was here, she headed up our highway section where **Ginger Gherardi** now presides....Former LB-LA project director **Dan Caufield** made an early-morning call at the end of June to say that he really appreciated getting the last issue of this rag and wants to be on the mailing lists for all the newsletters put out by our fabulous (and modest) Communications Section; Dan said he has been "ridiculously busy" but still retains "a soft spot in his heart" for all of us....More news of former staffers: ex-Communications Section denizen (now there's a word I'll bet you haven't seen in awhile) **Steve Parks**--once the Commission's most tireless organizer of social events, especially spontaneous after-work drink-and-gab sessions--is alive and well and living in Glendale while waiting for Hollywood to realize he's their next golden boy; Steve's looking for another job in communications or PR to support his scriptwriting habit; also, he's taken up guitar playing, so watch out Bruce....former full-time in-house paratransit consultant **Tom Quigley** has been working as transit manager at NOACA (don't ask us what the initials stand for) in Cleveland, Ohio, and living in Rocky River. His job is equivalent to what **Sharon Neely** does for us. NOACA has been heavily involved in a study of, guess what? Privatization in bus transit....another former denizen of the **Ray Maekawa's** paratransit department, **John My-Old-Kentucky-Home Cosby**, is living in the bluegrass state with his ladyfriend after traveling around the eastern and southern USA; like so many others, John scotched plans to visit Europe when he heard that Sylvester Stallone had been scared off by terrorist activity and he (John) could therefore cancel out without damage to his macho reputation....**Joan (Medeiros) Eckery**, who married Kevin, had a baby girl the week of April 7, which Mom & Pop named Colleen; Joan is an ex-head of personnel and finance here....Another ex-staffer-with-new-baby came by to visit recently, **Rebecca Reardon**, who used to BE the Communications Section. She dropped in with son David in tow (see photo). Becky and



family are back from Singapore and in the market for such things as a place to live and a car....And former head of G&PA, **Betty Bryant**, reports that she's enjoying the Bay Area and her "new" job, but surprisingly enough, her husband Fernando misses the L.A. area (Fernando, who has family in the Bay area, originally was eager to move up there)....Very quietly, when nobody was looking, **Annette Honda** went off and got married over the weekend of April 19. Her new husband's name is Marcelo Mendoza, so now we need to start thinking of her Annette Mendoza. Congratulations Annette!....While we're at it, congratulations are also due to **Steve Juarez**, who, in mid-May, very noisily gave up the interestingly irregular position he once described in these pages as "living in sin" for the more conventional one of marriage (his wife's name is Karen); we only hope marriage doesn't change that delightfully infantile and sarcastic sense of humor (Steve is G&PA's version of David Addison of "Moonlighting")....Did you know that **Ed Richardson** (rail division) and **Larry Gallagher** (graphics) went to the then-exclusive (it started to go down hill as soon as they left) Brooklyn Tech in New York at the same time? (Neither did they, until they started working together here.) That was back in the mid-'50s; Ed was studying engineering while Larry studied industrial design....Another back-to-the-past revelation: back in '69, **Bob Minahan** was one of a few hundred thousand others at that most successful and symbolic of all '60s events, Woodstock....Speaking (tangentially) of rock and roll, did you know that **Ann Reeves** once wrote a regular feature in a rock magazine? In the '80s though, not the '60s....Sixth-floor word-processing whiz **Don Brown** is also adept at two other word-based activities, "Trivial Pursuit" and "Scrabble"....**Deana Burton**, who had been searching for a new place to live longer than most of us have been at LACTC, finally found her dream home last month--a two-bedroom house in Monterey Park, with fireplace, yard, trees, and everything she was looking for; we're really happy for you, Deana!--now you can tell those noisy neighbors where to get off....Rail Engineer **Mario Guzman's** daughter Viviana is turning into a real media star; last issue we reported that she'd appeared on KMEX, and now Mario tells us her talents as a flautist again have just (July 6 and 9) brightened the airways again, this time over GALAVISION cable TV, which is seen not only in the U.S. but also in Mexico and Central America....another rail engineer, **Bertie Jackson**, has been assigned to the prestigious "Committee 12 - Rail Transit"

Name-That-Baby-Photo Contest Number 2

CAN YOU GUESS WHO THESE BABIES ARE? (They are LACTCers all.)



?

MORE on next page... ➤

BABY #1 _____ ?

?

?



BABY #2 _____ ?

?



BABY #3 _____ ?

?

SINCE OUR LAST CONTEST WAS TOO EASY, THERE ARE NO CLUES THIS TIME...

AND NO PRIZES EITHER. HAVE FUN -- ANSWERS TO BE ANNOUNCED

AT GENERAL STAFF MEETING JULY 31, 4 PM, 6TH FLR CONF. RM.

YOUR CLAIM

TO FAME



MAY BE IN

YOUR NAME

YOUR NAME HERE?



by Larry Gallagher

How can we ever forget these famous and near-famous people ...

The first actress to work for Disney:
Anna May Shun

The great symphony orchestra conductor:
Phil Harmonic

Those infamous Mafia leaders:
Noodles Romanoff
Chicken Catchatorre
Eggs Benedict

An innovator of two-wheel transportation:
Rick Shaw

The famous archaeologist:
Arty Fact

The Olympic gold medal winners:
Jim Nastic
Jim Shorts

Those world renowned funnymen:
Tom Foolery
Joe Kerr

The Japanese robe designer:
Kim Ono

One of the all-time great distributors of charitable funds:
Phil Anthropy

President of the local dock workers union:
Steve Ador

The L.A. Times staff writer:
Eddy Torial

The author of great ancient history books:
Ann Ticquity

The famous New Mexico resident:
Al B. Kurkee

The three runners-up for the 1978 Miss America contest:
Miss Apprehension
Miss Demeanor
Miss Conception

Former U.S. Army security chief:
Marshall Law

And last but certainly not least, those world-famous florists:
Phil A. and his wife Rhoda Dendrum ●



BABY #4 _____ ?



"I'm sick of the whole approach. Just tell the public we're cold and aloof and we make a goddam good carburetor."

SCENE, cont. from page 12

A QUINTESENTIALLY AMERICAN DAY was had by all (all six of us who showed) on Saturday, May 31, at the BRUNCH & BOWL event (sounds like something from the old "Fernwood 2-Nite" talkshow) in Mar Vista. Larry Gallagher, who organized the outing, is an avid bowler and also wanted to show off Kevin once again, who is his bowling protege as well as his golf protege. (What a satisfied parent this guy must be, with both his sons following in different sets of his footprints--as it were. I thought kids always rebelled against what their parents wanted for them, so tell us, Larry, what's your secret?) Larry and son got the event off right (for themselves that is) by tying as winners of the first game, but Pop pulled ahead after that to win the remaining two games and garner the day's high score of 186. Larry's Graphics Section buddy, Leon Cooksey, tossed a few too; Government Relations staffer Claudette Moody did her share for the morale of the rest by being low scorer of the event; and Ann Reeves and mate Richard were also on hand pommeling those pins. Everyone got a copy of "Bowling is a Ball"--a humor book put out by Larry and an entrepreneurial friend of his.

* * *

LACTC/SCRC SOFTBALL RIVALRY/REVELRY took place on June 28th, and ump-photog-general-rah-rah Bob Minahan provided all our players with free LACTC T-shirts and baseball caps. Two different versions of that spirited event will be found elsewhere in these pages, thanks to on-the-scene guest reporters from each team.



Bob Minahan, a man for all activities.

* * *

Coming up soon: SCRC BONFIRE BEACH PARTY, to which LACTC staff is invited (again thanks to Bob M.), will be held on Saturday, July 26, at Dock Wiler State Beach, at Imperial Highway and Vista Del Mar, from 6:00 p.m. until whenever; bring your own eats, drinks, chairs, blankets, grills, wood and newspapers for the fires; if you have questions, call Cassandra Ross at SCRC.... HOLLYWOOD BOWL POP CONCERT organized by Kathy Sweet for August 1--if you didn't order tickets already, it's too late now; but if you are among the 32 people who plan to go, Kathy asked me to remind you that the RTD has various park-and-ride services to the event....the TRADITIONAL LACTC CAMPOUT, per Cindy Kondo's various already-circulated memos, will take place on September 5-7 at Leo Carrillos State Beach; if you somehow missed all the latest details in Cindy's memo of July 14, get them from Ranger Cindy or Ranger Ilda Licón (Ilda, note the accent mark)....and other yet-to-be-devised events, including the YOU-ASKED-FOR-IT-PICNIC (sometime in late September?). Watch your in-boxes! ●

DID YOU KNOW? from page 13

of the American Railway Engineering Association (a.k.a. AREA); way to go, Bertie....This is going to be quite a baby-epoch at the Commission--in addition to Margarita's and Pam's that we mentioned in our last issue, Community Relations staffer **John Higgins** and his wife just (on 7/14) had a healthy baby boy, Ryan Christopher, six pounds plus and about a month early; John already has two, aged 15 and 10, by a previous marriage....Another G&PAer, **Mary Lou Echernach**, says she and John are going to start a yacht club, now that they both have boats; "Well, mine is more of a raft compared to his," she admits...we also hear that at one time Mary Lou drove a bus for a certain transit district near our old offices....G&PA's own **Margarita Ortiz** has developed a new penchant for political speeches; she recently acted as the spokesperson for her homeowners' organization in an EIR hearing regarding a proposed development in her neighborhood. She wrote her own speeches, which we heard were so articulate and stirring that her group won the day, even against Big Money Developers--which proves, you can OCCASIONALLY beat city hall....The Comish has been buzzing with rumors of **sabotage in the Community Relations Section**, which was decimated by a strange spate of inexplicable "accidents" that some of the more paranoid among us are laying at the feet of Rusky infiltrators and others have attributed to the little-known Curse of the Garfield Building. First **Naomi Nightengale** stumbled down the stairs and broke her hand--which turned into a long and painful ordeal--then **Olga Phillips** was rushed into the hospital for emergency internal surgery. Both are now happily at work again after extended absences, so drop around and welcome them back if you haven't already done so. Meanwhile, keep your fingers crossed for **John Higgins** and **Rick Gomez**, who some say are next on the hit list ...Former senior transit analyst (notice how we don't capitalize the titles of "formers") **Julie Austin** has decided to become a real-estate agent; she recently took the qualifying test and said she "had it aced." Julie embarked on her new career so that she can: be her own boss, make her own decisions, have unlimited income potential, not sit in an office 8-10 hours a day, cut down on commuting, and have work that is "varied and challenging." Hey, who could argue with those criteria?? Meanwhile she has been temping as a Kelly Girl for some quick and easy cash, as well as a quiet place to study, and she says it's an interesting experience to be so ignored: "At least at my old job <as senior transit analyst in **Sharon Neely's** section> people took me seriously enough to yell at me once in a while," Julie says....Communications staffer **Usha Viswanathan** recently returned from the Windy City, where she spent a week in intensive training provided by the Chicago Technical Institute Program learning about all aspects of public transit and probably more than she ever wanted to know about the mafia....Last but not least, did you know that on July 25 and 26, **Peter DeHaan of the Highways Section** will appear in a comedy melodrama called "For Her Che-ild's Sake"? The event is a fundraiser for an organization that helps the homeless, and if you think you'd like to go, buzz Pete on ext. 643....Got an item for this column? Buzz Ann or Margarita in Communications. See you next issue! ●

LACTC - SCRC SOFTBALL GAME

June 28, 1986



Their Version

Our Version

by June Leivas

by Richard Stanger

BULLETIN

BEARS WIN - SCRC TEAM GOES BACK TO FARM

ARCADIA (UPI) -- 06/28/86

The question of who had the better softball team, the LACTC Bears or SCRC Royals, was settled on the fateful day of June 28, 1986. When the dust settled on the field, LACTC came out victorious with a score of 8-7.

SCRC ace pitcher Roberto Valenzuela "Pelota" (n., Sp., "Ball") kept the Bears scoreless until the 5th inning, throwing high and outside causing the Bears to hit high flies to veteran left-fielder Dave "Golden Glove" Hancock.

Excitement overcame the Royals with their first at-bat. SCRC Catcher Cassandra Scioscia Ross got to first with Art "Killer" Truman, the only southpaw in the game, up next. Killer immediately sliced the ball into deep right field, seriously injuring the fielder. While the Bears chastised Killer, he commented that he had not meant to cause harm to the fielder, but was aiming for a seagull that sat on the right field fence, there being no laws against hitting seagulls on a baseball field in Arcadia.

Another injury occurred when Cassandra Scioscia Ross broke a nail while retrieving a wild pitch from Pelota. Manager-Player Cindy Rodriguez immediately administered first-aid with her handy dandy supply of Krazy Glue. Ross will be on the injury list for some weeks; at this point, her chances of playing in the re-match look good. Ross, a trooper, was overheard to say, as she gasped in pain, "No sacrifice is too great for my team".

The umpiring was fair but somewhat limited because Bob "Mr. Magoo" Minahan, the Head Umpire, had to depend on calls from players in the field and this led to much confusion.

One controversy erupted when a Royals runner was called out at third base after a fly ball was caught. Mud-slinging and name calling ensued, but Royals Player-Coach, Steve Lasorda Lee, overcome by generosity since his team was, at that time, ahead, elected not to pursue the dispute further, stating that he would begin collecting donations to buy a book of softball rules for the umpire as well as send him to RIPS Opticians.

Continued on next page

You could tell right away this was not a paid 65% review meeting for track-fasteners. Two few people; hardly any consultants at the 10:00 a.m. start-time. By the time the game did start at 11:00 most of the LACTC team had warmed up to the point of exhaustion.

It was not clear the game would even be played. SCRC had been concerned that they could not complete the game as agreed in seven innings with just 10 players. Marty Rubin did, however, feel confident that given 10 innings and 14 players SCRC could complete the game on time. LACTC forced the 7/10 rule, but would consider the extra three innings and six players in next year's consultant budget.

SCRC scrambled to a 2-0 lead in the first inning when an LACTC ringerette in right field tried valiantly to catch a fly-ball in her eye-socket. The ensuing medical drill allowed two runs to score. (Thanks to Joan McSpedon, the team's RN, Lisa was well cared for, and can begin new career as a stand-in for the Elephant Man.) Taking advantage of LACTC's confusion (a typical consultant ploy), SCRC scored three runs before the pros from LACTC could squelch the rally.

The mean machine then kicked in. Two runs were scored by our heroes in the second inning, two more in the third, and one more in the fifth. SCRC was held scoreless during this onslaught, thanks to a sound display of defensive skills, among them catch and throw. The quick glove of Norman (the Conqueror) Jester led to a rally-ending double play, which SCRC -- forgetting for the moment who the client was -- challenged almost successfully after the inning. The umpire, Bob Minahan, sided with the up-starts until Ed McSpedon reminded him of the chain of command (Dan couldn't have done it better).

SCRC scored one run in the sixth inning, jumping ahead 5-6 before the machine pushed three runners over the plate to go ahead 8-6. Sensing the inevitable, SCRC mustered little challenge and the game was over. The final score: LACTC 8, SCRC 6.

It was agreed that there would be other games in this friendly rivalry before too long. Stay tuned. ●

{Editor's Note: Sharp-eyed readers will have noticed that SCRC's reporter has claimed one point more for their team than the score given here by our reporter.}

Royals Head Cheerleader, Paul Merrix, promptly volunteered his squad of one, "Miss", to assist Minahan as seeing eye dog. Miss barked once for a strike, twice for a ball, and when she barked three times for a walk, she escorted the runner to first base. A petition is being circulated to put Miss in the Umpires Hall of Fame.

Another dispute occurred when it was discovered that the Bears' Don "The Claws" Harrison was wearing steal cleats which were banned from the game. When approached by the Head Umpire, Claws replied -- "They're not steal cleats - I haven't had a pedicure in weeks!"

The 5-0 score in favor of the Royals soon changed when the Bears got their act together in the field, then began hitting at their following at-bats. LAETC's third-baseman Norm Nettles Jester was awesome as he scooped up whatever came his way. The Bears began to hit, much to the surprise of the Royals who had by now become lackadaisical in the field. This brought in Royals relief pitcher, June Niedenfeuer Leivas, who caused batters to hit the ball to Golden Glove in left field.

SCRC acrobatics were performed by Joel (did anyone get his last name?), of DKS, brought in on a trade to permanently replace Joe "No Show" Johnson whose contract will not be renewed because he missed too many games.

Try as they did, SCRC could not hold onto the lead, as the Bears evened the score, and then broke the tie. Pelota, veteran pitcher of renown, and Leivas, a relative unknown brought up from (or on, depending on who you talk to) the farm, are still trying to decide who should get the loss.

The injured fielder, name withheld until nearest of kin is notified, was treated on the field and appeared to be doing well, although she will not be entering any beauty contests in the next few weeks.

SCRC Manager-Player Cindy Rodriguez stated that her team now faces daily lunch-time softball drills without pay.

The game being over, "Miller Time" was declared. ●



SCRC ROYALS L-R, back row: Steve Lee, Art Truman, Dave Hancock, Scott Lee (in hat behind Joel). L-R, front row: Cassandra Ross, Cindy Rodriguez, Rob Ball, June Leivas, Joel Falter.



↑ Dust flies as SCRC's Scott Lee puts LACTC's Steve Juarez out at third. Despite the handicap of having Steve on their team, the Bears pulled ahead and won the day.



LACTC BEARS

L-R, back row: Steve Juarez, Lorraine McSpedon (Ed's sister), Ed McS., Norm Jester, Dick Bennett, Robert Minahan Jr.

L-R, bottom row: Steele Smith (Bob M. Jr.'s friend), Don Harrison, Lisa Goodbody (Lorraine's friend and victim of the flyball in the eyeball), Ilda Licón, Richard Stanger.