

Dec 2006 / Jan 2007

The 1005 Line

The People Who Know Where They Are Going

The news and information publication of ATU Local 1005 prepared and distributed by the Education Committee



Local 1005
Minneapolis and St. Paul MN

Election 2006

Transit Amendment

"We're just thrilled that voters have decided that it's definitely time to invest more in transportation, transit in particular," said Lea Schuster, executive director of Transit for Livable Communities. "The voters of Minnesota have been telling the Legislature and the governor for years that they want to invest more in roads and transit."

"We have a lot more to do to properly fund our transportation infrastructure," added Rick Krueger, executive director of the Minnesota Transportation Alliance, one of the amendment's chief backers. "This amendment is necessary, but it's only the beginning step." He predicted legislators would consider other taxes to pay for a much larger backlog of transportation projects.

The amendment, which was supported by almost everyone except the teacher's union, dedicates all motor vehicle sales-tax revenue after June 2011 to transit and highways, effectively restoring amounts that had been gradually diverted elsewhere over the past couple of decades. The changes will be phased in over five years.

Pawlenty

While Pawlenty won a second term in Tuesday's election, the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party took control of the Minnesota House of Representatives from Republicans and increased their majority in the state Senate. He wants to set a cooperative tone, he said, "so that everybody can make some progress." That's what voters want, he said. By unseating 19 Republican incumbent legislators in the election, they sent a message that called for "more bipartisanship" and leaders who work together.

Democrats Victorious

"We are going to be very, very focused on core and basic issues," said Margaret Anderson Kelliher, a state representative from southwest Minneapolis who is expected to be chosen as the next speaker of the Minnesota House.

Kelliher predicted that the Democrats' new 85-49 Democratic-Farmer-Labor majority in the House will move quickly to approve funding for all-day kindergarten programs statewide,

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**LOCAL 1005
OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT/BUSINESS
AGENT**

**MICHELLE
SOMMERS**

VICE-PRESIDENT

JERRY EWALD

**RECORDING
SECRETARY/ASST.
BUSINESS AGENT**

SCOTT TOLLIN

**FINANCIAL
SECRETARY/TREASURER**

**CHUCK
GUDKNECHT**

Calendar

EDUCATION

COMMITTEE - 2:30 PM

DEC 19 NICOLLET

JAN 16 HEYWOOD

**EXECUTIVE BOARD
& UNION MEETING**

DEC 26 - MPLS.

JAN 23 - ST. PAUL

10:00 AM / 7:30 PM

**UNION OFFICE PHONE
612-379-2914**

EMAIL:

OFFICE@ATU1005.COM

WEBSITE:

WWW.ATU1005.COM

**THE
PRESIDENT'S
CORNER**

Michelle Sommers



I would like to wish everyone a happy holiday season and best wishes in the New Year!

I am happy to report that we have ratified our first contract with MV Transit in Burnsville. This was a big step forward in our organizing efforts. We will now look to other properties to move forward another organizing drive.

I am also happy to report the passing of the MVST amendment this November. This was a very important vote for the future of transit and our jobs. We need to remember there is a five year faze in, so don't look for a lot of changes right away.

I would like to take a minute to talk about payroll. We are in a fight to keep our payroll members part of ATU. This is a fight we take very seriously. I have been informed by the Council that they will petition the Bureau of Mediation Services for a unit determination. This means they do not believe payroll employees should be part of the ATU. We do. There is a 1996 Bureau of Mediation Services decision that states they are ATU jobs. If we were to allow the Council to just make them AFSME or non-rep employees without a fight, who would be next. We need too and will fight this petition with everything we can.

Having payroll employees as members of the ATU is a big benefit to all the members. They have the ATU contract knowledge and past practice knowledge to make sure everyone is paid right and make corrections as soon as possible if there is an error.

In addition to trying to take our jobs, the company computer program HASTUS that is being used to do operator payroll is not programmed completely right. Payroll employees have been pointing out the errors to management to try and help insure that proper payment to operators is made. Even with ATU members trying to help other members, all operators should check their checks to make sure they are right.

Year in Review 2006

Liz Goldberg

Internationally

The year was filled with conflict and violence with The Iraq War, the Sudan's ongoing massacre, intensified Middle East conflicts, Iran's nuclear program and the Taliban resurgence in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

On the national level

Controversy surrounded President Bush in the fight against terrorism War in Iraq, the expansion of executive privilege, domestic surveillance and Guantanamo's alternative interrogation procedures.

Society and science

In West Virginia, 13 miners are trapped 12 die, "New horizon" space craft launched to Pluto, water found on Saturn moon, Enron Executives convicted, "Discovery" lifts off to the International Space Station, Java, Indonesia 800 die in Tsunami, Italy wins fourth world cup, Pluto demoted, 49 die in Kentucky plane crash, "Atlantis" with crew of 6 lifts off to the International Space Station and the Pope's remarks outrage Muslims.

Meanwhile At Home in Minnesota,

Relative calm ensues with higher energy prices, higher property taxes, State, county and city budget shortfalls and reduced county and state and city services. Luckily we were supported by the assurances of our governor with - "No new taxes" -but pawlenty more fee's.

*Then on March 5, 2006 Minnesotans and the world heard the news- Minnesota Twins center fielder Kirby Puckett #34 suffered a massive stroke at his home in Arizona. He died the following day. Kirby play forwith the Minnesota Twins from 1984-95, and led the Twins to World Series titles in 87 and 91. His gregarious personality and dynamic style of play endeared him to fellow players and fans. After being forced to retire at age 35 in 1997 due to loss of vision in one eye from glaucoma, He was elected into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2001. Kirby Puckett is regarded one of five greatest sports figures in Minnesota history.
Born in Chicago March 14, 1960- died March 6, 2006.*

January

-November union election results began 2006 with the first woman president in our 72 year union history - "Michelle Sommers" newly elect President/Business Agent for the ATU Local 1005.

-A Constitutional Transportation Amendment designed to provide transportation, an additional \$300 million in revenue each year will be presented to voters in the 2006 November elections.

-East Metro Operator Jim Clancy 3050# retired after 40 years of service to Metro Transit.

Education Committee

**SCOTT TOLLIN
ADVISOR**

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**SOUTH
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STEPHEN BABCOCK
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**OVERHAUL BASE
TOM CAMPBELL**

**RUTER
OPEN**

**EAST METRO
OPEN**

**HEYWOOD GARAGE
LANCE WALLACE**

**EDITORIAL BOARD
KEN DOLNEY
DAN ABRAMOWICZ**

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AT THE GARAGE SOUTH

Contact Liz Goldberg

Congratulations

To Wendy Rouleau (EM Op# 6903) and Jonathon Hendrickson (Rail Op # 64180) who recently married December 3rd, 2006. Both from South, Wendy and Jon met, fell in love and became engaged here. Our best wishes to you both!

"The Great 2006 Chili Cook-off" Results

First place to Robin Gerdesmeier (So Dispatch) for her "White Chicken Chili", Bob Benson (Garage Cord) placed second and Butch Schiro #1071 third. Mr. Benson and Mr. Schiro originally tied for second with a coin toss resolve. "Butch... maybe try white beans next year?"

Holiday & Farewell Event on December 14th

A holiday potluck coupled with a "Good-by Gathering" for the 12/16/06 departure of ATM's Barb Keener and Kathy Casey to be held with some possible surprises! Kathy and Barb; you are both extraordinary! You leave with our hearts.

Special Commendation to Diane Rude EM Op# 9204

Diane's hijacker told her "that he would sing her a song and then kill her" while holding her hostage on the 21 route November 9, 2006. Grateful for your safe escape- we award you the "Southsider Medal of Honor" for your bravery, courage and cool intellect. (Diane is a former Southsider)

Transit Safety and Security Committee 2006 Summary

Members:

Jim Chisholm, Management Advisor, TCC
David Rogers, Chair, Rail
Jerry Larsen, Heywood
Mary Vasterling, South
Theresa Collins, Nicollet
Dennis Engebretson, East Metro
Scott Sternthal, Ruter Operator (Substitute)

There was no meeting in Sept.

October

Others in Attendance

Chad Loeffler TCC Supervisor
Officer Art Hart, MTPD
Chuck Wurzinger, Act. Man. of Maint Admin.
Lee Bennett, Asst. Manager, Street Ops.
Georgia Stinson, Asst Director Bus Trans.
Dennis Dodge, MJR Safety
John Suttles, Heywood Operator
Maddads liaison

For complete details please see the Safety and Security Board located in every garage.

TCC: Chad Loeffler. TCC is concentrating on Route 17 on time performance for the September pick.

Questions/comments: Jim: Twins shuttles were a success all around. Over 187 extra buses on the street. No safety incidents reported. Regular route service back on track by approximately 5:30pm - 6pm. Excellent job by maintenance getting extra buses onto the street. Jerry: Passengers very satisfied with service.

Georgia: Big thanks to Michelle Sommers at ATU for having the foresight to request agreement

ahead of time and have Union vote in September. Shuttles would not have been without the agreement being in place.

Theresa: It shows what Transit can do on short notice or in an Emergency. Georgia: Wednesday afternoon's human chain worked well on keeping crowds back and moving the buses out.

David: "Vote Yes" campaign signs are out and about. Union has signs and stickers. Lee: Met Council must be impartial towards Amendment.

Maintenance: Chuck Wurzinger: Second fan installed in 10 buses as a test. Bus numbers are as follows: NIC - 949, 1069, FTH - 811, 1033, MJR - 867, 870, STH - 995, 996, EMET - 820, 822. New artics also have 2 fans. Operators should report use, especially on bad weather days. Vents on Gilligs: New vent identified to solve problem. When problem was investigated, more air leaks were found. Velcro was not working to cover vent. Maint to replace vent with new one and caulk air leaks. Steering wheel issue of material coming off and staining driver's shirt: More time needed to research issue.

Questions/comments: Funding will most likely be available for a majority of buses. This will be a significant commitment of money. A survey made be requested.

Dennis Dodge: There is a problem with small mirror inside new artics at MJR that able op to see rear door, mirror is a convex mirror. Chuck: New Flyer is aware of problem and working on fix. New Flyer is also paying penalty

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Year in Review Continued

-1/29 & 1/30: The 1005 union membership accepted a second (similar to first but different pay structure) union contract offer from Metro Transit. The agreement passed 67% yes and 33% no.

February

-February ridership reaches 5.3 million- 4.7% higher than the goal to reach 71 Million by the end of 2006.

March

-2/13 A serious snowstorm resulted in 550 calls waiting for TCC response, 47 bus accidents, 15 service vehicles including commercial vehicles and some mechanics used their personal vehicles.

Metro Transit received 4- dozen commendations for operators.

-Accomplishment honors were awarded to Engineering & Facilities Janitorial employees; Timothy Swickard, Leads-Larry Brady and Kathy Nistler.

-March ridership attains 6.2 million riders- 5.8 above goal.

-Aurbia Lee Johnson Op #2222 received 12 commendations for March

-The new Chicago Lake Transit Center opens for business.

April

-Jon Avery MJR Op #88 retired after 38 years of service.

Jon was the winner of the very first Bus Rodeo in 1975 and was the highest seniority at his facility.

-Jim Klueckman South Op #350 to compete in the 2006 International Rodeo in California.

-Ridership reaches 5.8 million and is up 2.9% from goal.

-Delores Lennon Patterson an active union member who served as delegate to several Conventions and one of the founders of the Local 1005 Woman's Caucus passed away.

May

-Commendations for the first three months are up 19% and Complaints down 18%

June

-Minnesota State Retirement System will increase contributions by employee/employer beginning July 1, 2007- from the current 4% to 5%. The increase is needed to keep pensions fully funded.

-Using a federal grant Metro Transit Police department purchased two Segways for \$6,000 each. Segways are able to move quickly in tight areas and position riders higher up than average people.

-Metro Transit Rail Mechanics took fourth place in the International Rail Rodeo in New York City. The winners were Chris Anderson, Steve Cobb and Ed Meyer.

-John Humphrey promoted from Rail Supervisor to Rail Transportation Manager - John began Metro Transit as a Bus Operator.

-ATU 1005 Union Picnic at Battle Creek Park proves successful and

Continued on Page 6

**AT THE GARAGE
Heywood**

Contact
Lance Wallace Dr. # 64434

**AT THE OFFICE
Heywood**

Looking for someone to let us
know what is going on

**AT THE GARAGE
LRT**

Contact
Bob Boyle Or
Mark Ammend

We are nearing the end of another highly successful year here at rail.

As I write this we have people in New York signing off on the shipping of LRV125 which will be the first of our three new trains.

Final approvals and paperwork are being done to get the construction of the Northstar facility up in Big Lake started by this coming spring.

This means we will be adding about 5 blocks of track to Hiawatha to reach the new intermodal station that will serve us and Northstar as well as the new Twins ballpark.

Plans are also gaining speed for the Central corridor which is expected to be operational by 2014.

**Happy Holidays and
Happy New Year
from the Rail.**

AT THE GARAGE East Metro

Cheryl Kienietz-Hall

Holiday Celebration & Employee Recognition Party

East Metro's holiday party was held Wednesday- December 13th and a grand time was had by all. Metro Transit provided the menu, as follows: Breakfast: French toast, sausage and fruit
Lunch: Ham and Turkey dinner with all the trimmings
Eve snacks: Fruit, cookies, cheese, and ham/turkey sandwiches

Diane Rude Operator #9204

Grateful for your safe return and we are proud of you!

East Metro Facts

The last pick the number East Metro drivers increased by a single digit over FTH. Heywood has more work, but East Metro has more drivers. (This pick we will probably get more trippers)

Goodbye and Hello

Vicki Shimek, Assistant Transportation Manager's, last day at East Metro is December 15. We will miss her!

Jay Kluge will start as an ATM on December 15.

ATU 1005.COM

Contact Jerry Ewald

Get the latest info from the union website. Meeting agendas, grievances coming before the membership, Officer's email addresses.

Get connected. Union strength through member involvement!

Year in Review Continued

possible annual union event.

-Met Council approves light rail along the central (University Ave) corridor by a vote of 15-2. Central corridor will be 11 miles, 16 stations operated by 31 trains every 7.5 minutes during rush hour.

-6/23-Dennis Gilson #2922 Metro Transits highest seniority operator retired with 41 years of service.

-6/8-Former ATU Local 1005 President Ron Lloyd retires, he originally joined MTC in 1979.

July

-Metro Transit plans to buy 314 replacement buses over a five- year plan.

Buses would be 40-ft low-floors and half would be hybrid-electrics.

-July ridership 5.2 ahead of goal with more than 5.8 million rides for the month.

August

-ATU 1005 sponsored charity bike run held to benefit Big Brother Big Sisters.

-Ray Hartfiel and Dan Syverson Instructors in the rail division receives "Achieving Excellence employee award" both Instructors began as Bus Operators.

August ridership of 7 million is the highest in more than 23 years.

September

-Plymouth Metrolink recommended to the Plymouth City Council that Laidlaw Transit Services operate the city's express routes starting Dec 1st. Metro Transit has operated these routes since 1990.

-Metro Transit Payroll staff to move to the Met Council building on Robert St. in St. Paul.

-September ridership up almost 10% from last year.

October

-Heywood Operator Jack Berner #8927 became a seven-time winner after coming in first at this years competition and will go on to compete in the International Rodeo in May.

-State announces that it will review DUI arrests and will suspend CDL licenses up to one year if they had not been suspended already.

-Utility relocation begun in preparation for the Northstar commuter Rail service to Eventually meet up the Hiawatha Light rail line.

-Site of former Snelling Bus Garage may be exchanged for property near Vandalia Ave and Wabash Street in St. Paul.

-Metro Transit Rail rodeo held on 10/14. Rail Operator Mark Ammend #9217 and Electro-mechanical Technician Vern Goble placed first.

-Jon Capell former GM of MTC from 1986-1991 passed away. Capell began as a bus driver in 1970.

Meet the Executive Board Members

Mike Rossini - Transportation Board Member For Nicollet

My father was an immigrant at the age of twelve from Toscana, Italia, and my mother was in immigrant from Wisconsin! They had five sons (I being the last) and one daughter. I was raised in St. Paul, and attended twelve years of parochial school under the rule and ruler of some ruthless nuns. Growing up I enjoyed playing sports - hockey was my favorite. I played goalie for a V.F.W. league, and one year we won the State Championship.

After graduating from high school I went on to school at St. Paul Technical and Vocational Institute, in the Hotel Restaurant Management Program. I worked as a chef at the Lexington and as the pastry chef at the Radisson-St. Paul.

I married a fellow St. Paulite and together we raised four sons. All four boys are now married and with families of their own. I am fortunate to be the grandfather of six little Rossinis!

Over the years I have volunteered for the Minneapolis Aquatennial (18 years) and as one of those notorious Vulcans for the St. Paul Winter Carnival (5 years). Both experiences were rewarding ways for me to give back to the community and great fun.

I am now remarried to a Minneapolis Public school teacher with a passion for bella Italia. And she does not have to drag me off to Italia every summer, as it is now one of my favorite places to live 3-4 weeks every summer. It is a wonderful experience to visit the village of my father's childhood and connect with some relatives. Our dream is to spend more time there when we are both retired.

In 1975 I began my "life at MTC," as an operator out of the old Snelling and then move to the Northside. When South opened in 1980 I started dispatching there. I have spent time at all the garages. I joined the Peer Support team about 10 years ago. In the late 90's I was elected 2nd Vice President of our Union. It was a great learning experience for me, and made me a stronger union member. I moved to Nicollet Garage about two years ago. This past summer after Curt Botner shifted from bus to lightrail, I was elected to replace him as a Board Member for the Operators at Nicollet. I quickly realized being a Board Member can be very time consuming and challenging. (I thank my fellow dispatchers and the management at Nicollet for understanding the time I must spend away from my dispatching desk.) I am available just about any time to answer questions, listen, or represent my fellow union members at arbitration meetings or discussions. We all need to be involved in our union to make our professional lives better.



Chuck Feucht - Maintenance Board Member for East Metro

I was born in Saint Paul in 1962. I am married and have 3 children and 3 grandchildren. My dad is a 30 + year retired Metro Transit Driver. (Richard Feucht)

My first job was a union job at Country Club Market in 1976. I worked there until I graduated from Archbishop Brady High School in 1980. At the suggestion of my father and some friends I applied and was hired at Metro Transit in Sept of 1980. I started working at Snelling garage.

I became a board member in 2006 when Gary Rosenberger decided not to run. (We lost a good one when Gary left). I had been through enough problems with the company and decided to use that experience to help fellow employees. This being my first year as a board member, it has been a busy one, I've learned alot.



I look forward to the years to come. People can get ahold of me through work.

Page 8 Year in Review continued

-A bus Operator refused to drive a particular bus because she stated it violated her religious beliefs. Metro Transit accommodated her and said that it will deal with future issues relating to this on a case-by-case basis.

-Jeanne O'Neill Nicollet Operator #2116 scored the highest among first-time participants at Metro Transits Bus Roadeo and received Rookie of the Year recognition.

-Darell Hanson Nicollet Operator #9289 and Heywood Operator Duane Lundgren # 0289 will compete at the State Bus Roadeo in second and third place respectively.

-Complaints are down nearly 15% and commendations up 6% for the first nine months of this year.

November

-Minnesota voters approved the Transportation Amendment. -Pawlenty wins over Hatch by a sliver. East Metro Operator # 9204 Diane L. Rude is held hostage after her bus was hijacked.

Diane escapes safely and hijacker apprehended.

December

All 1005 members had a wonderful holiday - Made oodles of cash and retired early.

Meet Our Newest Education Committee Member Dorothy Maki

Instructor #9082

Married to Brad Maki February of 2005, 4 children together (27, 26, 25, 23)
2 grandchildren (10, 5 weeks) Live in Coon Rapids in a townhouse. I love the part of not having a lot of upkeep, BUT I miss having a huge garden. I love cooking, which is a blessing because when Brad was diagnosed with nasopharyngeal cancer, I do extra duty with 90% home cooking and juicing. He is doing great, and I hope he is an inspiration for others on quality of life after being diagnosed with cancer, and how we can help to cure our ills through diet along with the new technologies out there.

We have a happy home, good family and friends, and hope to share many more years together.



MV Transit - B Line

ATU members at MV Transit have approved their first contract. It was approved by 100 percent of those voting. The contract runs through 05/31/2010.

HBO - Hacking Democracy

Try to watch the HBO Special Hacking Democracy. It is an eye opening look at the fraud in elections going on in this country. YouTube.com has a nine part miniseries, each lasting about nine minutes, that will give you an idea on what is going on. You will never look at elections the same again.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=vnSURWFCKeM and www.blackboxvoting.org/

By-Law Proposals

The By-law Committee will meet on February 7, 2007 at the Union Office. The bylaw committee will meet on February 7th, 2007 at the union office, 312 central ave in Minneapolis. Members wishing to appear before the committee regarding any by-laws submitted may do so between the hours of 1:30 and 3:00 P.M. on the above date. Submitted by-law changes will be read at the January 23, 2007 membership meeting. Proposed changes will be taken under consideration by the By-law Committee, read and acted on at the membership meeting on February 27, 2007.

Retirees Corner

Dorothy Maki

We would like to introduce you to a new feature in our union paper. It is a column that will be devoted to the retirees. Our retirees have developed a tradition of meeting at several locations through out the twin cities on set days and times. Everyone is welcome.

Northside Breakfast Club

Meets the second Tuesday of each month, 8:30 AM at Barnacle Bills located at Shingle Creek Parkway and Freeway Blvd Brooklyn Center.

Southside Breakfast Club

Meets the first Wednesday and the fourth Thursday of each month located at Bridgemans, 800 W. 66th Street Richfield.

St. Paul Retiree Lunch Club

Meets the second Wednesday of month at 12:00 PM. The St. Paul retirees club has moved it's meeting place from the Wells Lanes to the VFW Post located at #295, 111 So. Concord Exchange in South St. Paul.

Metro Transit Mechanic Teammate

Meets the third Tuesday of the month at Old County Buffet located on 2000 South Robert.

The second Tuesday of the month at 8:30 AM, Barnacle Bills is the place to be. It is located just off Shinglecreek Blvd. On Tuesday November 14th there were 25 retirees in attendance. The café devotes a whole back room with a special horseshoe set-up just for them.

I was seated next to Jim Parlow #936 MJR, Richard Hardenbrook #693 EM, and Freddie Brown #9106 MJR. Jim is a funny animated guy. He is a good friend with Richard and they recently went down to Florida for the air show in Lakeland. Richard is a pilot and has flown for 40 years and just sold his airplane for a speedboat. At this point, Jim interjected that, "You know Miami vice banana boats? That's the kind he has." LOL! He also spoke of some harrowing adventures in New Mexico with a one seater.

Freddie had a funny story of his son Keefe Brown #66253 a brand new driver out of FTH. Keefe called one evening after work, "Dad, dad, I missed my turn, are they going to fire me?" Arnie Entzel was there and did a small presentation on the passing of the transit bill. He does a good job with disseminating information and passing it on to the group.

Richard Shinn #8963 EM is enjoying his retirement too. He said he wouldn't mind if the company let retirees drive again and might check it out. The waitress stopped by and sat down for a few minutes to visit. She really enjoys having the group of drivers come by every month.

The food was good, the company was even better. I look forward to joining them again soon (with a camera too!) Next: South St. Paul VFW 111 Concord Ave, December 13th @ noon.

AT THE GARAGE Nicollet

Contact

Theresa Collins #1378 or
Stephen Babcock (Stores)

We made \$1,660.95 for this years garage sale. Thank you to everyone that donated their items for this event. A special thanks to all the volunteers; without your help it wouldn't happen. (See Photos on pg. 19)

Signe Martell #150, Ron Gayle-shop, Debra Mills #9946, Maria Flores # 6942, Lori Nguyen # 2018, Lisa Callahan # 6716, Sam Walker # 5877, Dan Wagner # 7713, Darell Hanson # 9289, Sonnie Samuels # 1337, Theresa Collins # 1378, Shirell Johnson # 5906, Dave Zapata-shop, Joseph Pratt # 66213, Charles Ricard-shop, Debbi Sievers # 64222, Kathy Jones-shop, Mary Green-shop. Thank You!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Remember to start saving your items for next years sale.

Congrats go to the rodeo winners: Rookie of the year: Jeanne O'Neill # 2116
2ND place winner: Darell Hanson # 9289

Good luck to John Edwards # 9270 on your retirement.

The Nicollet Holiday Party will be held on Wed., Dec 20th.

Retirement Benefits:

Retirees after 12/31/92 pay \$49.80 a year dues. If you retired before it is \$25.80. For those dues you recieve \$1000 in death benefits from the Intl. and \$100 or flowers from the local, depending what the next of kin wants.

You can vote for officers in elections and attend union meetings.

AT THE GARAGE Ruter

Contact Dan Abramowicz #6225
dan6225@comcast.net

The 3200 series New Flyers are here.

The "Accident Free Awards Lunch" was held December 13th in celebration of one week free of accidents. The garage membership was treated to delicious Subway Sandwiches.

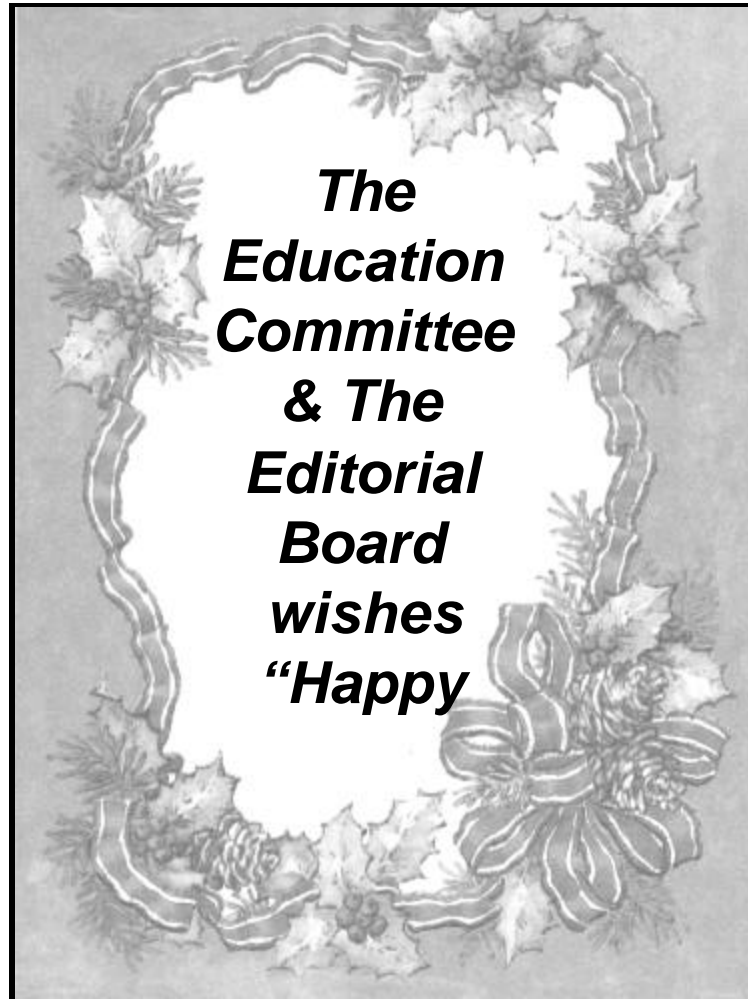
The "Holiday Party & ATM Hugh Hudson's Farewell Bash" featured a complete turkey dinner with all the traditional trimmings on December 15th. Hugh will be going to Heywood during the routine management shake-up and switch around.

MJR welcomes ATM Kathy Casey (currently from South) now joining the MJR team.

A Special "Thank You"
*to the following
Minnesota Transit
Amendment Volunteers*

Mike Carter, East Metro
Terry Dolney, East Metro
Steve Book, OHB
Terry Mudge, OHB
John Lund, OHB
Todd Eaddy, Nicollet
Beth Bennett, Nicollet
Beth Fisher, East Metro
Theresa Collins, Nicollet
Twyla Macintosh, Nicollet
John Macquire, TMSA-Rail
Paul Slesar, TMSA-OHB
R.C.C.
T.C.
Bill Andre, TIC

To those we missed, we apologize; we appreciate the efforts of all involved!



CRYPTO by PAT KELEHAN

Each letter stands for another. If you think X=O, for example, it would equal O throughout the puzzle. Clue: T=E

X U A Z B Y C W V D C T F T W Z T S G C

X H T B D W X B Q X B T J G K K S X M N

D B V X B D U M B T J G C T M W X A D K K

W Z T C W B T T W C. Z T Q D C W Z T

C Y K T U W O U Y P Z W!

(Answer on page 19)

ines for delays to buses. Other problems with 3200 series artics include steering and artic joints.

Dennis E: In regards to vents, sometimes vents are missing.
Chuck: Continue to write buses up for vent problems. Vents will be included in inspections if not already.

Georgia: In regards to rattling on buses - can restricted duty ops ride buses and put tape on what needs to be tightened in bus. Sometimes difficult to identify what is the problem when bus is still. Rear doors also rattle.
Chuck: Touch bars on rear doors sit in socket, the goal being to have them not stick. Future orders of buses will not have touch bars on rear doors. Bus 815 at MJR has new system installed. New system is Acoustic Wave System which uses sound waves to activate door. Chicago and Phoenix transit systems currently use system. Chuck: Door won't open unless activated by operator and the bus has to be going less than 3 mph.

Dennis Dodge: What about the farebox rattle? MJR has two test buses that have a gasket inside of farebox that has significant impact on softening rattle. Mary: Any work on enunciators on new buses? Chuck: Unsure if it is a mandate or option in the new bus specs. Eventually enunciators will be added to the hybrid buses. Of the 76 new buses in 2007, 20 will be hybrid with 15 assigned to FTH and 5 assigned to NIC. Of the the 56 new buses in 2008, 25 will be hybrids with majority assigned to NIC. These buses will be assigned specific routes, starting with routes that use the Nicollet Mall, routes 10, 11, 17 and 18. Dennis E: What is cost of

enunciators? Chuck: All costs unknown. Some estimates are \$1000 per bus, but that does not include support. Georgia: There is always the possibility of a grant. Chuck: New buses will still have microphones.

Theresa: Regarding bus seat cushions - bus cushions don't stay in place. Customers slide out of seats when bus stops, seats fall out on turns, looks sloppy.
Chuck: Metro Transit is requesting extra seat clip from American seating. Once we get more clips, should help problem but we will be committed to extra clip. New 3200 series artics have seats snapped in, it takes work to get them out. Maintenance is currently working on seat replacements for 400 series, 500-520 series, 3000 series buses, replacing hard seats with slightly thicker cushion.
Dennis E: Regarding driver's seats - old driver's seats can't adjust seat bottoms low enough, need to be able to be lowered. 400 series buses seem to be main problem with bumpy seats that go up and down. Chuck: Continue to write problems up, be specific on BO Slip.

Street Operations: HASTUS/Atis detour interface now working properly. When ops check in, they should print a new paddle if there are new messages (detours) listed. City of Mpls is now installing Hi-Frequency signs at bus stops along affected routes. Criteria for Hi-Frequency is service operates at least every 15 minutes from 7a-6p Mon-Fri, and 9a-6p Sat. City of Mpls also may fine 'Drink' bar for litter clean up at Hennepin/Warehouse LRT Station.

Questions/comments:
Scott: MJR and East paddle print-

ers are behind glass, not always easy to get new printout of paddle. Georgia to check on.
Theresa: Rt.554, difficult turn from EB Diamond Lake Rd onto SB Nicollet with cars parked in parking lane. Lee will look in to.
Jerry: Buses having difficulty on 2Av N between 5th and 6th Sts.
Lee: Continue to check detours.
Dennis E: Regarding rough streets in St. Paul. Four complaints in St. Paul were fixed after calling into TCC.

MADDADS: John Suttles. Maddads has been riding Rt.5 since June, primarily between the hours of 4p-8p. Now beginning second quarter of riding. 10 months left on 14 month contract. Buses seem to be calmer with Maddads onboard. Maddads are looking to expand to Routes 16 & 21. Customers bring their issues onto the bus, the issues themselves usually don't start on the bus. Measuring the success of the program is still being worked on. Maddads will come back to November TSSC meeting.

Questions/comments:
Art: How many Dads ride per night? John: 4 dads and John ride, 2 up front and 2 in the rear of the bus. Dads wear green shirts. David: Many positive comments have been heard about program. John: Original hours were determined so that working people would see a difference, working people who wanted something to be done. Hours will be changing, possibly to 8p-midnight. David: If Maddads ride route 21, will they then not ride route 5 anymore? John: Details still be worked on, efforts to continue on route 5 would be made. Peter Bell and Peter McLaughlin will be riding with Maddads on

October 9. Theresa: Buses need no swearing/cussing placards. Jim: Marketing is already working on a rules sheet/card, maybe Maddads and marketing can get together, Jim to check on. TSSC to work with Maddads on handout

Police Report: Officer Art Hart. MTPD reports 4 assaults on drivers - 3 in St. Paul and 1 in Coon Rapids. Suspects in all cases went to Jail. Locations of incidents were Rice/University, Spring Brook Dr, and another at East Metro Garage. Please continue to collect courtesy cards. Witnesses are very important to prosecution. Chief Jack Nelson will retire in October. Dave Indrehus will take over as interim Chief. MTPD will be adding 2 to 6 officers. MTPD now has 40 FT officers, 70-100 PT officers. A couple K-9s will be added, funded by a federal grant.

Questions/comments
Theresa: Peer support members currently get list of assaults sent to them. Jim will check on.
Theresa: Nicollet mall operators are very tired of bikes and taxis on the Nicollet mall. Art: MTPD will stop them when they can. There is an officer that does extra strong enforcement of bus lanes when available. Theresa: What about jay walkers, can anything be done? Art: Jay walkers are not a priority for the city of Mpls. There are not enough officers to take care of jay walking problem. Pedestrians have right of way.

Safety: Dennis Dodge.

Questions/comments:
David: What is status of defibrilators at garages? Dennis Dodge: Will check with Brenda/Mike.
Scott: Is there a policy on taking and using CPR while on duty.

Can the company take action against an operator who uses CPR on a passenger? Dennis Dodge: Doesn't believe that there would be a problem, but will check in to.

Other: Minutes of future TSSC forums will be taken. New policy on wrapped buses will be tested during 2007. New policy will include limiting wrapping of buses and trains to no more than 50% per side. Policy also prohibits wrapping of street side window next to door, and rear windows on bus. Train doors may be wrapped. Unlimited number of buses and trains may be wrapped as well.

November
Others in Attendance
Chad Loeffler TCC Supervisor
Officer AJ Olson, MTPD
Chuck Wurzinger, Acting Manager of Maint Admin
Lee Bennett, Asst. Manager, Street Ops
Georgia Stinson, Asst Director Bus Trans.
Phil Walljasper - Risk Management
John Suttles, Heywood Operator, Maddads liaison
Brenda Himrich - Manager of Bus & Rail Safety
Jeff Wostrel - East Metro Garage Manager
Bob Gibbons, Director of Public Relations
Sam Jacobs - Director of Bus Transportation
Scott Tollin - ATU
VJ Smith - MADDADS representative

TCC: Chad Loeffler, No TCC Report. No Questions or Comments.

Maintenance: Chuck Wurzinger. Nicollet Maintenance recently discovered problem with fan parts,

there were incorrect parts for right side fan. Maintenance to investigate. In regards to overhead vent problems - Maint will be getting cord to seal off unwanted air that flows onto operators heads. New vents have been installed on newer buses.

Questions/comments: Van: What is the timeline of project?
Chuck: Cording should be relatively quick once products arrive.
Jerry: What about vent problem down by feet? Driver's are stuffing schedules into vents to direct airflow. Chuck: Problem could be related to fan problem that was noted above. Chuck has not looked into issue but will get it looked at.

Van: Chuck Ahlberg visited MJR to test drive Artics. After opening front floor panel they noticed openings that can look down onto the street. Panel is directly behind farebox. Bus 3118 was bus that was test driven. Air could be coming thru causing issues as well. Chuck will investigate.

Theresa: Two Questions - what is status on 4-way flasher beeping?
Chuck: Maintenance has met with bus rep and they can attempt to put silicon wrap on to soften noise. Maint has not forgotten about issue, still working on it as well as other things. Other Maint issues are more priority and taking precedent.

Theresa: Question #2 - Status of something to protect driver's knees from banging into fareboxes and steering wheel. Chuck: Maintenance still looking into issue, but hasn't got to it yet.

Theresa: Driver's having difficult time tying down large scooters.
Sam: Metro Transit just found out

that Federal Requirements say that scooters do not have to be tied down. Jeff: Recent dialogue isn't necessarily tying down scooters, but rather how can we make sure scooter doesn't tip over? Tie downs won't stop top heavy scooters to tip over. Georgia: Experience at State Fair - requests were made to those in scooters to get out and sit in a seat. Initial observations are favorable.

Safety: Brenda Himrich: Scooters falling down is a national problem. Safety went to Metro Mobility to investigate better ways. Conclusions were inconclusive, Metro Mobility having problems as well with what to do. Easter Seal Project Mobility is conducting a Nationwide study of Mobility devices on public transportation (buses).

Mark and Tether program looks promising. Nothing is done to the bus, wheelchairs and scooters of passengers are modified to make it easier to secure them on the bus. New voluntary standard (WC-19) developed by ANSI - To better secure chairs and survive in accidents. We are updating the how to ride information on the web site.

When reviewing customer complaints with the new Yield signs on buses, customer complaints have gone up for buses pulling away from bus stops. Reductions in complaints about cell phone use, red light running.

Preventing passenger fall handout is being finalized, will be pocket size and on hard copy stock. Tips will be given out to driver's only. Tips have already been placed in TAKEOUT. Safety and purchasing still working on bid for defibrillators, hopefully bids will go

out next week.

Questions/comments: David: How often do we have scooters tipping over. Brenda: Happens more than you think. Phil: Metro Transit would most likely still be held accountable due to no fault clause. Van: What is operator's liability in case of scooter falling over? Brenda: Safety investigates every scooter accident. Responsibility will be determined by what went on, what was asked, etc. Georgia: If customer wants to be secure then Transit has to secure them.

Dennis: What is the mandatory tie-downs? Sam: 3 tie-downs necessary, lap belt not necessary if customer doesn't want it. Dennis: Can more outreach be done to agencies. Brenda: Safety will continue to attempt to educate. Phil: First amount of money will be paid regardless due to no-fault insurance laws. Once larger amounts are sought, Risk will attempt to question who is liable. Brenda: Metro Mobility will deny passengers rides if the wheelchair is defective.

How can we know if wheelchair/scooter is defective? Mary: What on customers saying about bus operators pulling away from stops? Brenda: Unknown, complaints are categorized. Van: In regards to tips on preventing passengers falls - shouldn't scheduling be involved if operators need to take more time for passengers. Brenda: Scheduling issues are being taken up on another venue.

Street Operations: Snow Storm update - why must we drive artics? We need them to make pull out. New idea is to pull artics off routes that are known to have problems with artics and

replace them with 40 footers. Artics will then be placed on other routes that usually use 40 footers.

Questions/comments: Theresa: Considering we lose a significant amount of service on snow storm days regardless, why not keep some operators at the garage and not make pull out to conserve resources. Jeff: Training of bus operators is concern when beginning to re-deployment of 40 ft and artic buses. Dispatchers may have difficulty with re-deployment with lack of training for operators. Before procedure is made up, garages should have idea of percentages of operators who can drive an artic. Georgia: Customers who are regulars will show up instead of driving, regular customers realize that they will be late. Seats will be full and many standees. Theresa: Transit stations need to be salt and sanded quickly to assist. Dennis: In March '06, no advanced plowing, sanding that hurt as well type of snow.

David: Are there specific places where buses get stuck. Jim: No known report for locations. Van: MJR is a main artic garage, with extra 40 ft buses (reserve fleet). Company costs go up by going to get stuck buses, when maybe cost savings can be done by activating the reserve fleet.

Brenda: Too difficult to tell which warnings are going to be real bad and which will fizzle. Jim/Sam: Approximately 4000 maintenance hours are used to get the reserve fleet up and running for the State Fair, and similar hours would be needed to get reserve fleet running.

Theresa: Nic driver's having difficulty on Saturdays at Uptown

Page 14 DSSC Minutes Continued

Station. Private vehicles are parked in the lot adjacent to the Uptown Station with their bumpers hanging over curb into drive lane for buses. Also vehicles are traveling EB thru Uptown Station because it is difficult to see Do Not Enter signs with buses parked there. Dennis: Operators concerned about taxi use in bus lanes. Lee: Taxi's have bus lane privileges. Jim: Call TCC if taxi's parking in bus stops. Van: Rt.764 has bus stops to close together. Lee to investigate

Risk Management: Phil

Walljasper: March 13, 2006 was indeed a special day, over 100 claims for the one day. Fixed object collisions - 7th St/Nicollet now in top spot for claims, Heywood garage now in second place. Risk attempting to run report showing problem areas. There are no significant factors. Minnesota no fault insurance policy makes it difficult to determine where problems exist. Routes 5, 21, 16 are numbers 1-3 respectively, in amount claims for this year.

Questions/Comments: Brenda: Mike Conlon has investigated correlation between late buses and an increase in accidents. Jeff: Late service committee has been working on fixing late routes. Scott: Are drivers that use all of recovery time being taken into account with investigation. Jeff: SmartCom data is trying to find portions of route where there are problems. Reports also take lack of recovery time into account. Brenda: Would be interested to compare earlier in the year compared to now to see if there is a difference. Van: Has management looked at structural changes to facilities where there are high

number of collisions with fixed objects. Sam: If a structural impediment is found to be a problem, then action would be taken. No structural problems have been found. Theresa: Any thoughts about putting signs are rear of bus saying "Do not make right turn in front of Bus", similar to the Yield signs currently on buses. Phil: New cameras currently on buses will assist in defending claims.

Police: Officer AJ Olson: Bomb threat on LRT this week. Train was stopped at Franklin, evacuated and searched with dogs - nothing found. Southbound train stopped as well as a precaution. Arrest was made a couple hours earlier after reviewing video surveillance from platform and train. One operator assault this past month, Nicollet/38th St, operator assaulted by fare evader. Suspect found and charged. Police would like to remind operators to ask for fare once and only once. Safe zone participation cut back to M-F only. Some numbers for safe zone officers - 112 felony arrest, 1049 misdemeanor arrests.

Questions/comments: David: Formal request to have help at Hennepin/Warehouse on the weekends. AJ: Officers continue to assist with problems at Warehouse, especially the night officers. David: What is situation with robberies near LRT platforms? AJ: MTPD to do extra patrols in areas. Jerry: What is MPD policy to drop people off at bus stops and have them ride the bus. AJ: It is not the MPD policy to drop people at bus stops who are DK. They should be going to detox.

MADDADS: John Suttles: VJ Smith, president of local MAD-

DADS present. Route 5 calls to TCC have gone down. Numbers for months are as follows: June 63, July 58, August 47, Sept 58, Oct 43. Maddads not recognized by all operators, stronger effort will be made to let operators known who they are and what they are doing. Maddads adopted a shelter at BCTC. Maddads do outreach while on buses to encourage to people to change their lives and get where they want, helping people with their problems that they bring onto the bus. Maddads give out referrals while on the bus. Denver and Kentucky have called inquiring about the program. Program also assists police with as many problems that can be taken care of without police intervention.

Questions/comments: Jim: Placard still in development for buses. John and VJ to attend next forum.

Other: Mary - Wrap update - All new wraps for 2007 will be limited to no more than 50% of windows on any one side of a bus. Estimates are that 50% of wrap revenues will be lost without full wraps. Window directly next to front door will remain clear always. Contracts already in place for 2007 will continue to be complete wraps.

Respectfully submitted,
Chad Loeffler, Recording Secretary

Scholarships

Information for the Union Plus scholarship and the International scholarships are on the education page of the ATU 1005.com

Five scholarships will be awarded from the International, post-marked no later than 1/31/2007.

Job Tips

Theresa Collins

1. We all need work bags, so get a pilots bag that is on wheels and has a pull-up handle. This will help your back when walking through the bays and to and from relief points.
2. Always write up bad order buses, we have a great maintenance department who will make repairs, and do a good job of pre-tripping your bus and this will cut down on senseless service calls.
3. If I have a situation on my bus, and feel I may get a customer service call I will get a courtesy card from a passenger who will back up my story. I put the date, bus #, route, direction and time on the card and keep it in my work bage. If I happen to get a complaint I have protection.
4. When passengers are cussing or swearing, I will say loudly and clearly " Out of consideration for the rest of the passengers please watch your language" usually this will work, however, call control for backup.

Customer Service

Theresa Collins

In a recent interview with Mark Crooks from Customer Relations, I was surprised to find that in the first three quarters of 2006, customer relations was contacted 47,087 times with complaints. Out of the more than 47,000 complaints, 75% were handled by customer service. 11,632 or 25% are sent to the ATM'S or other divisions. 51% of the original 47,087 calls were verified through the smartcom radio system as unfounded.

There are five categories for Customer Service:

1) General Bus Operations

703 passengers passed up at bus stops, 488 buses late, 156 buses early.

Some suggestions to avoid these complaints would be, to leave your terminal on time, never a time check early, double check a bus stop as you approach it, check detours and carefully read your paddleboard to ensure the correct route.

2.) Operator Behavior

668 complaints for rudeness, 189 operator not helpful.

Some suggestions to help avoid these complaints would be: show willingness to help, treat everyone fairly, smile, be patient.

3.) Safety

243 complaints were from passengers who called in to say the driver left stop before they were seated. 226 complaints are from other

motorists calling in about unsafe merges/lane changes.

Some suggestions to help avoid these complaints would be: wait until passengers are behind the yellow line, say " please hold on I am leaving", make smooth & steady stopping and accelerating always signal in and out of bus stops, check your mirrors maneuver your bus carefully into other lanes.

4.) Mainline excessible Service (EEO-Diversity) complaints

224 complaints for insensitivity to the disabled.

Some suggestions to help avoid these complaints would be: remember that all customers that require the use of the lift are human beings, wait until the disabled and elderly are seated before leaving the stop, call your streets loud and clear for the visually impaired, be patient, understanding, show a willingness to

help.

5.) Fare Problems

(this is when customers call in about any fare issues)

Explain nicely what the customer needs to do with misread cards use your best judgement when encountering expired transfers (what's a few minutes?), ask for the fare one time. (Its not worth an injury over \$2.00)

Drive in a safe and consistent fashion. Customer service should only come second to driving. It takes more effort to be mean than nice. We owe it to our customers to be safe, nice and helpful. A smile goes along way. Greet every single passenger that gets on your bus. Our passengers are JOB SECURITY.

There were 896 commendations called in for operators in the first three quarters of 2006. LETS GET THOSE HIGHER FOR 2007.

reduce school property taxes, extend state-subsidized health insurance to children not now covered by insurance and allow small businesses to buy employee insurance coverage through the same state program.

The DFL defeated an incumbent Republican state auditor, incumbent Republican secretary of state and added one more Democrat to its congressional delegation. DFLers regained control of the Minnesota House. (Democrats moved from trailing Republicans by two seats to leading them by 36 seats.) Senate Democrats now have a 21-seat majority, up from nine seats currently.

Both majorities fall short of the veto-proof margins Democrats would need to be able to override a Pawlenty veto without Republican support. Minnesota House and Senate changes, as well as Republican congressional defeats, mostly resulted from voter dissatisfaction with President George W. Bush and the war in Iraq. Bush said the changes are a sign of democracy at work.

Source: St. Paul Pioneer Press

Automotive Service Excellence

Until the early 1970s, consumers had no way to distinguish between incompetent and competent mechanics. In response to this need, the independent, non-profit National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) was established in 1972. ASE's mission is to improve the quality of vehicle repair and service through the testing and certification of repair and service professionals.

At present, about 420,000 professionals hold current certifications. They work in every segment of the automotive service industry: car and truck dealerships, independent garages, fleets, service stations, franchises, and more.

Here's how ASE certification works: Prospective candidates register for and take one or more of ASE's 40-plus exams. The tests are grouped into specialties for automobile, medium/heavy truck, truck equipment, school bus, and collision repair technicians as well as engine machinists, alternate fuels technicians, parts specialists, auto service consultants, and collision damage estimators. Upon passing at least one exam and after providing proof of two years of relevant work experience, the test taker becomes ASE certified. Certification, however, is not for life. To remain certified, those with ASE credentials must be retested every five years.

Paper/Pencil tests are conducted twice a year at over 750 locations around the country and are administered by ACT, known for its academic and occupational testing programs. In addition, selected tests are offered in a computer-based testing (CBT) format at 200 sites for two five-week periods each year. The exams stress knowledge of job-related skills.

Motorists benefit from ASE certification. It is a valuable yardstick by which to measure the knowledge and skills of individual technicians as well as the commitment to quality of the repair facility employing ASE-Certified professionals.

ASE, working with transit unions and transit properties around the country, have been developing certification tests for transit mechanics. The tests completed thus far are Electrical, Engine, Advanced Engine Diagnostics, HVAC, and Brakes. These tests are similar to the tests now being used by Metro Transit.

The Amalgamated Transit Union working with other transit unions is in the process of developing training programs for mechanics that using the same task lists that the certification tests were developed from. The Unions goal is to have the best trained mechanics in an industry that is constantly introducing new technology to the transit bus and to provide the safest most comfortable ride to the operators and riding public

Source: ASE Automotive Service, www.ASE.com

Hijacking

As you know, one of our drivers, Diane Rude #9204, a 14 year driver from East Metro, was hijacked on Thursday, November 9th at 6:32 am. Anderson, a passenger who boarded the bus in Minneapolis, Diane noticed him "acting very strangely". She told police she believed people got off the bus during the ride to St. Paul because of Anderson's behavior. Police described Anderson as emotionally disturbed.

She was alone at Broadway and Kellogg with him aboard the bus. As she neared the end of the line, this passenger appeared over Diane with a scarf which he placed around her neck, strangling her. He ordered her to continue to drive, which she did. He forced her to go through red lights and he was singing and screaming, reciting verses from the bible, telling her she's the one, to find a quiet place, it is her time. "Take me somewhere quiet so that I can sing to you and then kill you," the passenger told Rude.

During this time she was able to activate a silent alarm. The alarm allowed police to locate the bus by its Global Positioning System. She also let the passenger know what streets she was at, which helped control Center track her by listening in. In order to try and keep him calm she tried to sing along with him and talked trivia with him. She was driving where he wanted.

She noticed the St. Paul Police behind her bus. She stopped the bus near a gas station and told the man that she needed to use the restroom but he told her she wasn't going anywhere. This gave police enough time to surround the bus with weapons drawn and apprehend the suspect.

Diane feels this situation needs to be addressed for several reasons: One: She feels that when drivers bring customers to the end of the line, we are putting ourselves into a safety risk. Two: We cannot see directly behind the driver's seat, where this individual was sitting. She would like all operators who feel the same way, to contact their Safety and Security Representatives for this to be addressed at the next meeting. If they are unable to do this, send copies of their incident reports that have been filed concerning any "end of the line issues".

Diane was very terrified, angry, alone, scared, nervous and still feels afraid. She does not want any other driver to go through this type of situation - EVER! This is why she wants to change the policy for operators bringing passengers to the end of the line. Please contact your Safety and Security Representatives or Diane Rude or Theresa Collins, #1378, to get the ball rolling.

She has contacted Peer Support to help her get through this ordeal and wanted all her fellow bus driver friends to know she is trying to get this through. She is grateful for all of your support.

RAD

The Rape Aggression Defense System

One out of every eight women, at least 12.1 million have been victims of forcible rape. It is estimated that 1.3 women are raped every minute in the United States.

Diane urges all female Operators need to attend RAD. The Rape Defense System is a program of realistic self-defense techniques for women. The course begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance, while focusing on the basics of hands-on defense training.

You do not need any prior experience to attend these classes or be in top physical shape to participate. You can check the program locator on the web site to locate a program in your area the average cost for the basic physical defense program for women is about \$25 some instructors offer this program as a community service through the local police department. Many colleges and universities offer RAD program as a credit course.

Over 250,000 women have attended RAD basic physical defense program. The basic physical defense program is a minimum of nine hours and can be up to a semester long from those instructors who teach for college credit. Men who wish to become RAD instructors must have a law enforcement background or be willing to submit to a background investigation.

For more information go to: www.rad-systems.com

Retirements

Congratulations to

Employees who Retired in September

Snow, Glenn A, FT. Op. #2680, East Metro Gar.
Langhoff, James N, Mech. #3305, Ruter Gar.
Newquist, Jerome E, FT. Op. #9214, Hey Gar.
Douglas, Roxinne E, FT. Op. #973, Nic. Gar.
Ybarra, Paul A, FT. Op. #1211, Hey Gar.

There were no Employees who Retired in October

Congratulations to employees celebrating

Anniversaries

December

5 YEARS

12/17/2001, Bergevin, Scott A, Schedule Display
Coordinator, #3716
12/17/2001, Patrin, Thomas D, Mech., #5618
12/17/2001, Ray, Daniel G, Mech., #5619
12/8/2001, Peterson, David A, Bus Op. FT, #2454
12/8/2001, Tsering, Karma, Bus Op. FT, #2457
12/8/2001, Vang, Yer, , Bus Op. FT, #2455
12/3/2001, Adams, Mitchell, Bus Op. PT. Day, #2449
12/3/2001, Foster, Harold A, Bus Op. PT. Day, #2450
12/3/2001, Key, Henry, Money Counter, #2443
12/3/2001, Ngo, Tony H, Bus Op. FT, #2444
12/3/2001, Young, Tanya A, Bus Op. PT. Day, #1046

10 YEARS

12/16/1996, Timmins, Richard A, TIC. Rep, #3491
12/14/1996, Muhammad, Demetre, Bus Op. FT.,
#8641

15 YEARS

12/2/1991, Blake, Dennis D, Bus Op. FT., #9196
12/2/1991, Hayes, Daniel T, Bus Op. FT., #9194

20 YEARS

12/8/1986, Gilbertson, Judy A, Bus Op. FT., #726
12/8/1986, Quist, Lawrence R, Bus Op. PT. Day,
#706
12/8/1986, Starr, Wanda Y, Bus Op. FT., #708

30 YEARS

12/20/1976, Vanhofwegen, James C, Bus Op. FT.,
#934

35 YEARS

12/2/1971, Shand, Daniel J, Bus Op. FT., #242

January

5 YEARS

1/7/2002, Seaberg, Scott A, Bus Op. FT, #2461
1/7/2002, Brown, Linda K, Bus Op. FT, #2459

1/7/2002, Helgesen, Donald G, Bus Op. FT, #2458
1/12/2002, Larson, Ron L, Bus Op. FT, #2466
1/12/2002, Bruce, Richard D, Bus Op. FT, #2467
1/12/2002, Baumann, Lance, Bus Op. FT, #2465
1/22/2002, Irving, Mary E, Credit/Coll. Analysis
1/28/2002, Hacker, Tina K, Con. Fare Rep, #2482
1/28/2002, Dahl, Phyllis M, Bus Op. FT, #2469
1/28/2002, Kelley, Paul N, Bus Op. FT, #2474
1/28/2002, Caouette, Paul L, Bus Op. PT, #2480
1/28/2002, Yang, Neng L, Bus Op. FT, #2481
1/28/2002, Hennes-Staples, Maria, Bus Op. PT, #2479
1/28/2002, Wallace, Kermit A, Bus Op. FT, #2471
1/28/2002, Brain, John S, Bus Op. PT, #2472
1/28/2002, Lambus, Jeffrey, Bus Op. FT, #2477
1/28/2002, Vernon, Gerald E, Bus Op. FT, #2476
1/28/2002, Jhamgarian, Frieda M, Janitor, #3719
1/28/2002, Robbins, Erick W, Bus Op. FT, #2468
1/28/2002, Bolden, Clifton, Bus Op. FT, #2473

10 YEARS

1/18/1997, Glynn, Robert H, Bus Op. FT, #9702
1/27/1997, Feldkamp, Daniel M, Bus Op. FT, #9703
1/27/1997, Rennock, Vanetta M, Vault Puller, #9704

15 YEARS

1/4/1992, Dolney, Terrance M, Gen. Disp., #9202
1/4/1992, Leko, Stephen J, Bus Op. FT, #9201
1/6/1992, Kramer, Steven D, Bus Op. FT, #9206
1/6/1992, Rude, Diane L, Bus Op. FT, #9204
1/13/1992, Smith, Aaron L, Bus Op. FT, #9210
1/13/1992, Juettner, James G, Gen. Disp., #9213
1/28/1992, Rahaman, Abdul M, Sen. Mech., #9224
1/28/1992, Williams, Ronald, Bus Op. FT, #9219
1/28/1992, Ammend, Mark M, Train Op., #9217

20 YEARS

1/26/1987, Findorff, Ross A, Bus Op. FT, #390
1/26/1987, Haugen, Keith D, Bus Op. FT, #734

30 YEARS

1/24/1977, McClurg, Roxanne L, Bus Op. FT, 31

35 YEARS

1/17/1972, Kochsiek, Ronald V, Bus Op. FT, #2738
1/24/1972, Zimanski, Kenneth B, Bus Op. FT, #2741
1/27/1972, Stevens, Ian, Ld Money Cnter, #3147
1/31/1972, Turnblom, Richard G, Bus Op. FT, #2512

*A Special Apology for missing 30 year employee
3/26/1976, Bob Benson, #2538 So. Gar. Coordinator*

*For retirement parties and deaths of
members, please look on the
ATU1005.com website.*

Nicollet Garage Sale



\$1660.95 was raised for the support of the "Nicollet Club"

Nicollet Auction

Nicollet's resident Artisan, Dusty #939, has created a Floor Lamp & End table for this year's Raffle (and also some of his handcrafted pens)!!! Don't miss out on this opportunity!!!

Tickets-\$1.00, 6 tickets for \$5.00

For tickets: contact Joel Terrell (x5148), Theresa #1378, Louie-dispatch (x5144) or any Nicollet Manager

Drawing will be held 12/22/06



Stores Dept. Takes Inventory Recently

John Christensen, Wayne Eastman, Mary Jorgenson and Bruce Biddick counted stock at Nicollet facility.

If you have events/pictures send to Scott Tollin at the Union office.



Letters To The Editor

Submissions for Letters to the Editor are subject to approval of the Editorial Board and space considerations. Letters to the Editor are solely the opinion of the author and do not represent endorsement by ATU Local 1005 or the Education Committee. If you have an editorial to submit, please contact a committee member or our advisor Scott Tollin at: stollin@atu1005.com
No Letters were submitted

Answer To CRYPTO:

ON CHRISTMAS EVE THE BUS OPERATOR WORE FULL BODY ARMOR AND REFUSED TO CALL THE STREETS. HE WAS THE SILENT KNIGHT!

The 1005 Line



The Twinkle Bus Says it all this Holiday Season!!

The twinkle bus was put together by the tremendous efforts of Greg Vaughn, Terry Hinchcliffe, Howard Melco and Joe Gilles from OHB.

DRUG TESTING RIGHTS

If you do not use the specific wording when you request results from a positive drug test, the agency has no obligation to comply. All they are required to do is give you a paper stating the results are positive. Every employee has the legal right to request, in writing to the Medical Review Officer (MRO), copies of: the Litigation Package* of the initial test (this will tell you how your test turned up positive); the Confirmative (breaks results down into specific levels); the Threshold Levels (baseline of all tests).

*The Litigation Package can be nearly 100 pages of technical data, which cannot be analyzed or understood by a layperson, including union officers. Professional interpretation is available at the member's expense, starting at about \$50. minimum.

WEINGARTEN RIGHTS STATEMENT

If disciplinary action is suspected, read this statement to your foreman: I request to have a union representative present on my behalf during this meeting because I believe it may lead to disciplinary action taken against me. If I am denied my right to have a union representative present, I will refuse to answer accusational questions and any I believe may lead to discipline.

