Local Bus Roadeo
draws Competitors
for National Contest
I know you get some letters complaining about the bus drivers, but this is just the opposite.

Driver D.L. Treadway is one of the nicest persons one can meet. He is unusually courteous and always very, very nice especially to all those over 65.

He always has a friendly word when you are getting off. Tell him to keep up the good work.

Mrs. Edythe Lipman
Oakland

Enclosed you will find some thank you notes from the students here in our program. We have been most grateful for the courtesy extended to us by AC Transit not only this summer, but during the last couple of months of the past school year.

It has been a worthwhile experience for our deaf and hard of hearing youngsters to use AC Transit on their own as well as the chartered service. The students have said they have received courteous attention from the drivers when they are going to and from school via AC Transit.

I am sending my compliments to him because I think he deserves some words of praise.

Vivian Bard
Berkeley

I just would like to let you know what a wonderful time we had on one of your tours to Carmel.

Most of this is due to such a fine bus driver we had, named Vic Bowen. He is an excellent driver who is dependable and always courteous. He was really fun to be around.

The Astens
Hayward

I just can't say enough kind words for Lorrie Trevino who handles your "Lost and Found" department and who helped me recover my purse which I had left on one of your buses.

I don't know what I would have done if it hadn't been found. Please thank her very much for me.

Dorothy Lang
Oakland

Our 'Stockholders' Write

Fall brings continued expansion

District expansion into Moraga/Orinda is one of several areas of imminent growth for AC Transit.

Buses will roll into Richmond's new Hilltop Shopping Center in conjunction with the center's opening day, while a new zonal Dial-A-Ride and mini-route operation nears implementation in Fremont/Union City.

In addition, Concord's recently implemented city-wide bus system will start operating revamped routing Sept. 7.

Moraga/Orinda system

Suburbanites will find commuting easier beginning Sept. 13 with a new experiment in travel for the Town of Moraga and a portion of neighboring Orinda.

Residents will have bus service from Moraga Center to BART/Orinda and BART/Lafayette as well as to Orinda Village, the Crossroads and Rheem Valley.

St. Mary's College service

St. Mary's College students will have free bus service to and from either BART/Orinda or BART/Lafayette.

Service will be operated Monday through Friday.

Four new buses, 25 feet long and seating 25 passengers, have been ordered, also to be paid for with federal and state funding. In the meantime, surplus coaches will be used.

In Richmond, three lines will extend into Hilltop Shopping Center Sept. 8, providing residents from neighboring communities with public transportation to the multi-million dollar center.

While opening day of the center could be delayed due to a workman's strike, shoppers and businessmen alike eagerly await AC Transit's participation in the Grand Opening.

In Fremont and Newark, improved service including a new approach to Dial-A-Ride is set for Oct. 17.

Seven fixed routes are the backbone of the transit network in Fremont/Newark. These routes operate on major arterials and connect widespread centers of population.

Combined fixed route and mini-route service will operate during commute hours while zonal Dial-A-Ride will operate in midday hours.

The mini-routes dip into neighborhoods to pick up passengers and either operate directly to BART/Fremont or BART/Union City or make timed transfers to fixed routes destined to the stations. Timed transfers mean the connecting bus will be along within five minutes.

Midday Dial-A-Ride

Zonal Dial-A-Ride will operate from about 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays — the non-commute hours. Saturday service will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. while Sunday Dial-A-Ride will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Under the concept, Fremont and Newark have been divided into 21 Dial-A-Ride zones.

Two of the zones, one in the old Centerville section of Fremont and the other in western Newark, will be implemented first.

Concord routing revamped

In Concord, that city's seven-route public transit system will begin revised routing Sept. 7.

The city council of Walnut Creek has approved participation in Line 308 which runs along the Treat Blvd./Citrus Ave. area. Currently, buses under contract to the City of Concord make no stops along those areas within Walnut Creek borders.

All lines, with the exception of Line 303-Concord Blvd., have undergone revisions aimed toward improved service areas and scheduling benefits.
In depth forecasts undertaken

Study of projected yard growth approved

Steps were taken this month to begin an in depth study of the District's projected needs for garage and maintenance facilities.

Need for such a survey, board members were told, is reflected in the 30 percent bus fleet increase which has occurred since AC Transit's first year of operation.

In 1961, some 633 coaches comprised the fleet. Today that number stands at 821 with 1,000 estimated by 1981.

Current garage and yard facilities were originally designed to accommodate a fleet half that size.

A consultant firm, yet to be chosen, will undertake the study with results expected to be available in early 1977.

Objectives of the study are a survey of existing plants to determine whether they can meet the needs of District expansion and analysis of potential sites for new construction.

Cost of the project is estimated at $100,000, to be funded totally through federal and state grants.

Report to streamline Future transit patterns

A $50,000 study on how to get AC Transit bus riders where they want to go in less time has been approved by the Board of Directors.

The six-month project on how to reduce delay for buses traveling in the East Bay and to San Francisco will be funded by an 80 percent federal Urban Mass Transportation Administration grant and 20 percent from the regional Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

CALTRANS to assist

The California Department of Transportation will assist in conducting the study.

During the half-year project, researchers will identify problem areas and make specific recommendations for improvements by use of “preferential treatment techniques” such as exclusive bus lanes, traffic signal controls and parking restrictions.

The project will be conducted under a joint powers agreement between the District and MTC.

RAIDER ROUTERS—With the opening of the professional football season, AC Transit coaches rolled into operation to take fans to the Oakland Coliseum from various points throughout the East Bay and San Francisco. Last year 102,425 passenger trips were recorded on AC Transit buses serving the Oakland Raider home football games.

RAIDER ROUTERS—With the opening of the professional football season, AC Transit coaches rolled into operation to take fans to the Oakland Coliseum from various points throughout the East Bay and San Francisco. Last year 102,425 passenger trips were recorded on AC Transit buses serving the Oakland Raider home football games.

ATTORNEY GENERAL Evelle Younger presents Driver Ernest L. Harper Sr. with a certificate of commendation, picture at left, for Harper's role in rescuing eight people from a fire. At right, Driver Mike Movsessian hears his efforts toward capturing a mugger praised by Oakland Police Chief George Hart.

Attorney General, Oakland Police Chief

Praise drivers for acts of heroism

Two District drivers who went to the aid of endangered citizens were honored recently by the California State Attorney General and Oakland Police Chief.

In making the separate presentations, both officials pointed the operators' actions as above the call of duty service to their community.

Driver Mishik (Mike) Movsessian received a citation of commendation from George Hart, Oakland Police Chief, for his role in the capture of a mugger.

Pursued assailant

On Dec. 4, 1975, Movsessian observed a woman being mugged in Oakland's Lake Merritt area. Her assailant fled after the attack, stealing her purse.

Movsessian chased the man both on foot and in his automobile. He was able to give police a detailed description of the man and license tag number, which led to prompt arrest. Movsessian, a Seminary Division operator, was off duty when the incident occurred.


Harper was driving Line 80 when he noticed the blaze, stopped and kicked down three doors to gain entry. He aided evacuation of the citizens who were unaware of the blaze until his action alerted them.

Harper also is based at Seminary Division.

Both men received letters of commendation from the Board of Directors.

THE COVER - Operator M. L. Meadows prepares to enter the Speed/Clearance test field during District competitions held in August for the best AC Transit driver. The operator who emerges as winner will represent the District at the First National Bus Roadeo in San Francisco Oct. 18 and 19. Transit representatives from across the country will compete in the roadeo sponsored by the American Public Transit Association.
New assistant personnel manager
Among recent District appointments

Billy S. Lyle, a 23-year veteran of public transportation, has been appointed assistant personnel manager.

Lyle, who began his career as a bus driver and worked his way up through District ranks, served as assistant superintendent at Seminary Division prior to assuming his new position.

In 1974, Lyle became known in the Richmond area as assistant superintendent of a one-year experimental Dial-A-Ride project. His responsibilities include coordinating the activities of Personnel Department division heads and evaluation of personnel policies.

Lyle and his wife, Velvia, reside in Alameda and have raised two daughters and one son.

In another District promotion, Melvin Reece has assumed the position of assistant supervisor of schedules.

Reece, like Lyle, rose through the ranks from bus driver after joining the District in 1963. He has served as assistant dispatcher and held the post of senior schedule analyst prior to his recent promotion.

Reece is a life-long resident of Emeryville and lives with his wife, Marilyn, and their two school age sons.

Shamoon to attend Fall Carnegie seminar

Robert J. Shamoon, personnel manager, will attend a six-week long seminar this Fall on public transportation management, planning and design.

American transit industry personnel and transportation officials from several foreign countries will take part in the conference at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa. Sept. 13.

Newark Division safest

Newark Division drivers led others for safe driving in miles driven per accident during the month of July. With a goal of 13,250 miles per chargeable accident, they scored 59,887 with Emeryville Division tallying 19,181.

Semiary Division scored 14,614. The District-wide average for July was 16,663 miles driven per accident.

Billy S. Lyle
Melvin Reece
Alvin Gibson
Robert Shamoon

AC Transit's Employee Golf Tournament will begin next month, with monthly matches held prior to the championship play-off scheduled for next July.

First games will begin Sept. 18 at 11:40 a.m. in Franklin Canyon and are open to all AC Transit employees.

Persons interested in competing should contact Bill Kelly or Leon Maddox, both of the Claims Department.

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Report Financial

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At an adjourned regular meeting July 28, the Board of Directors:

- Expressed opposition to AB 3256, in present form, on motion of Director Bettencourt.
- Expressed opposition to an amendment to HR 3155, on motion of Director Bettencourt.
- Authorized reduction of Line 12-Oakland Army Base extension to Post Office on Wake Ave. to one trip on weekdays; authorized alteration of Line 65-Dwight Way routing to terminate at Sixth St. and Channing Way and authorized elimination of the first two Saturday morning trips of Line 70/70A-San Pablo Ave., on motion of Director Berk.
- Authorized General Manager to execute joint powers agreement between AC Transit and Metropolitan Transportation Commission and to appoint two District representatives to Board of Control for six-month Bus Priority Techniques Study, on motion of Director Berk. (See story, Pg. 4)
- Authorized General Manager to seek bids for chrome plating of 413 fareboxes, on motion of Director Berk.
- Authorized reimbursement of Board Member's expense for inspection of Rohr Corp. plant, on motion of Director Rinehart.

* * *

Margaret Desmond, most senior employee, dies

The District lost its most senior employee this month, with the passing of Margaret M. Desmond who died Aug. 6 of a stroke.

Miss Desmond began her 50th year with AC Transit and predecessor companies in January, having been employed longer than anyone else in the District. A party commemorating the event was held in her honor at that time.

She began her career on Nov. 16, 1926 selling ferry trip tickets and has remained in the Finance Dept. as senior clerk until a recent sick leave.

Miss Desmond, of Oakland, is survived by two sisters, Cecelia Healey and Julia M. Campbell.