Operators achieve An all-time safety Record in August
What a marvelous time we had on your tour to Point Reyes. Outside of the day being perfect, so was our driver. Thank you so very much and I truly hope you will continue offering these one-day trips.

Mrs. H.C. Miller
Oakland

You are doing us as well as many other senior citizens a great favor by having these tours each summer, as it gives us the opportunity to get out and see some of the beauty in our great State of California, something which is not possible when we don’t have cars.

We hope very much that you will continue to sponsor these tours and find many new and interesting places for us to visit.

Norma Denske
Oakland

The one-day “Fun in the Sun” tours are a sheer delight . . . a wonderful way to get away for a day, especially for people who have no other means for an outing. Keep up the good work.

Leona Bansmer
Oakland

Thank you for making available to the public the many pleasant trips to local places of interest, especially for those of us who don’t care to drive. I certainly hope future trips will again be made available.

M.S. Trenery
Oakland

I would like to express my thanks for your Sunshine Fun Tours. I have enjoyed all trips I have gone on and hope they will be continued in coming years.

Anna Buck
San Francisco

I have thoroughly enjoyed all of the trips I reserved. The 20 selections were marvelous: not only the missions, California historical places, forests, etc., but also the journeys through picturesque countrysides. Thanks, too, for each trip’s history and facts on cities and places on the journey.

Agnes Egan
San Francisco

Would like to thank you for the nice summer tours we had. Sure did enjoy them. The driver, Roy Wall, was also very nice—courteous. Hope you will have tours again next summer.

H. Leyer
San Leandro

Operators’ safe driving statistics soar
To the highest level in District history

District drivers achieved an average of 20,889 miles between accidents in August — the highest monthly average in AC Transit history.

At all four divisions, drivers exceeded the monthly safety goal — 13,250 miles between chargeable accidents — by wide margins.

Newark Division drivers led the way, motoring a total of 280,294 miles with just seven accidents during the month — an average of 40,042 miles per mishap.

Richmond Division operators registered 22,385 miles for each accident while driving a total of almost half a million miles in August.

At Emeryville Division, where total mileage logged was 896,640, drivers tallied a 21,896 mile average.

And at Seminary Division, operators registered 17,270 miles per mishap while totaling almost one million miles for the month.

In reporting the August achievement, Superintendent of Safety and Training Stanley O. Pearce notes drivers have been accumulating impressive safety statistics for the past year.

Three of the four divisions beat the monthly “safety bogey” — 13,250 miles per mishap — seven times in the last seven months.

The four divisions exceeded that monthly mark a total of 34 times in the last fiscal year.

“The record for the entire year has been good,” says Pearce.

“August’s was the best yet — a record we can be proud of,” he added. “But we’ll be working to do even better.”
Summer tours a success

The twelfth successful season of AC Transit's popular Summer Sunshine Fun Tours ended September 1st.

This year, the one-day Tours consisted of 20 different daily trips to a total of 34 interesting destinations in and around the Bay Area and Northern California. A total of 3,200 riders - nine out of ten of them adults - enjoyed the 83 days of tours during the 1978 season.

The District employed 101 buses to cover the 13,144 total tour miles to historical sites, amusement centers, wineries and parks and through scenic countryside.

New local service begins

New bus service got off to a lively start in western Contra Costa County September 5th with a parade of ceremonies.

A District bus led a "WestCAT" (county area transit) coach start-up day as celebrants cut ribbons at Hilltop Shopping Center in Richmond, then in Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo and Crockett.

Regular "WestCAT" service was inaugurated on four feeder routes in Rodeo, Hercules and Pinole - operated by Western Contra Costa Transit Authority - initially accommodating up to 2000 riders a day.

The local contract with AC Transit extended Line 78A from San Pablo through the area to Crockett, and provides for transfer connections along the extended route, with BART express buses in Pinole and at District stops at Hilltop in Richmond.

Inauguration Day Parade - The John Swett High School Band of Crockett led the way September 5th. The second parade unit was a District bus, heralding extension of AC Transit service through Western Contra Costa County to the Carquinez Strait. Line 78A now operates weekdays between Crockett - via Rodds, Hercules and Pinole - and the Richmond-El Cerrito area. Concurrently, the Western Contra Costa Transit Authority - which contracted for Line 78A extension - inaugurated its own local feeder service, christened "WestCAT" (county area transit). Reciprocal transfers between systems gives the WestCAT rider access to AC Transit mainline bus and BART train service for a single fare.

Rider survey will help District plan transit future

Bus riders on every AC Transit line are asked this month to help the District plan for future mass transportation in the East Bay.

Random surveys are being taken on all local, express and transbay bus lines to collect basic information about the people who use public transit and the kinds of trips they make.

Survey-takers distribute and then collect brief questionnaires which require only a few minutes of the rider's time.

The questionnaires elicit information about riders' origins and destinations, frequency of use of buses, usage of transfers on District service or to other transportation modes and systems, and reasons for traveling - i.e., to school, work, shopping, etc.

Survey results will provide AC Transit with statistical information which will be one of the important guides in planning improvements to meet future transit needs.

The random sampling is being carried out throughout the 600-square-mile service area - from Brentwood to Crockett, San Pablo to Newark - during three weeks of September and October.

Employee, two pensioners taken by death

George L. Harrison, a schedule analyst when he retired in 1968, died in Castro Valley September 1 at the age of 76.

Harrison began his 43-year transit career as a streetcar motorman in 1925, and subsequently served in a variety of capacities in Transportation before his transfer to Schedules in 1951.

Funeral services were held at Chapel of the Chimes in Hayward.

Harrison is survived by his widow, Ellen, and daughters Shirley and Janet.

Wilma Stacy, who was a bus driver at Seminary Division when she retired in 1967, died in Hayward September 11 at the age of 69.

She moved behind the wheel of a bus in 1945, and spent the last 20 years of her career serving riders and making friends on Line R between San Francisco and Hayward.

Funeral services were held in Berryville, Arkansas.

Mrs. Stacy is survived by a son, Rex, and a daughter, Jerry.

Cathleen M. Skinner, a bus driver at Seminary Division since 1976, died in Oakland September 7 at the age of 28.

Funeral services were held in Oakland, followed by burial in Richmond. Ms. Skinner is survived by a son, Ronald, and a sister, Shirley Allen.
Retirement rollcall

Transit pros opt for leisure life

Eleven District employees are headed for retirement after transit careers adding up to a total of almost three centuries of service to East Bay bus riders.

**Thomas Almeida,** a driver at Seminary Division when he retired August 1, had joined the District's predecessor — Key System — in September of 1954. He and his wife, Eva, now make their home in Richmond.

**Esther Baber's** 36-year transit career ends officially October 1, with her retirement as a mechanic at Emeryville Division. She began as a bus driver, in 1942, and subsequently served for three decades as a dispatcher.

**Francis Eaton** went to work in Maintenance in 1947, and remained in that department in various capacities through his retirement as a mechanic, Seminary Division, August 1. Eaton makes his home in Richmond.

**Clifford Edwards,** a bus driver at Emeryville Division, ended a 32-year transit career with his retirement September 1. Edwards resides in Oakland.

**Charles W. McMillan,** who joined the District's predecessor in 1959, retired as an Emeryville Division bus driver August 1. He and his wife, Elmyra, now have a new address — in Jefferson, Texas.

Bus Driver **Darrell W. Reaves** also retired at Emeryville Division August 1 after 32 years of transit service. Reaves and his wife, Dorothy, make their home in San Leandro.

**Murl L. Rhoads,** a driver at Emeryville Division, joined the District in 1964. With his retirement effective August 1, Rhoads and wife, Myrtis, changed their address from San Pablo to Agra, Oklahoma.

Richmond Division Driver **Joseph L. Roy** ends his 38-year career with retirement October 1. Roy, who joined Key System in September of 1940, makes his home at Point Richmond.

Another veteran of 38 years service is **Clarence Sullivan,** until August 1, a driver at Seminary Division. Sullivan and his wife, Judy, make their home in Oakland.

**Driver Lawrence J. Spindler** ended 20 years behind the wheel with his retirement at Newark Division August 1. Spindler and wife, Hazel, changed their address from San Leandro to Stratford, Wisconsin, after his retirement.

And **Driver Dorothy Torrenga,** a familiar face on Line 18 for a quarter of a century, ended a 36-year career with her retirement last month. (See photo below.)

### 3 year passenger trip comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>1978</th>
<th>1977</th>
<th>1976</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Bay</td>
<td>1,321,775</td>
<td>1,369,324</td>
<td>1,416,975</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transbay</td>
<td>679,569</td>
<td>700,486</td>
<td>718,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont/Newark</td>
<td>125,130</td>
<td>130,797</td>
<td>135,464</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract Services:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BART</td>
<td>153,255</td>
<td>118,247</td>
<td>125,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>45,266</td>
<td>44,005</td>
<td>42,745</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pleasant Hill</td>
<td>9,390</td>
<td>9,425</td>
<td>9,450</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moraga</td>
<td>15,880</td>
<td>16,831</td>
<td>17,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburg/Antioch/</td>
<td>31,329</td>
<td>29,753</td>
<td>28,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brentwood</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,953</td>
<td>2,027</td>
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</table>
At an adjourned regular meeting August 30, the Board of Directors:

- Awarded contract to Buehrer, Inc., for forklifts, on motion of Director Rinehart.
- Rejected all bids received in response to Regional Transit Association proposal for procurement of oil seals, on motion of Director Rinehart.
- Approved minor adjustments in Line 51 route in Berkeley and in headways on transbay lines, on motion of Director Bettencourt.
- Authorized General Manager to issue request for proposal for purchase and installation of computer, on motion of Director Rinehart.
- Established new rates for charter services, on motion of Director Rinehart.
- Adopted resolution establishing tax rate to pay costs of bond debt in Special Transit Service District 1, on motion of Director Rinehart.

* * *

At a regular meeting September 13, the Board of Directors:

- Awarded contract to Power Plus Batteries Co., in conjunction with Regional Transit Association proposal for procurement of bus batteries, on motion of Director Rinehart.
- Appointed General Manager the District's representative to San Francisco Bay Area Transportation Terminal Authority and appointed Assistant General Manager for Administration alternate representative, on motion of Director Bettencourt.
- Authorized Assistant General Manager for Operations to sign District warrants in the absence of General Manager, on motion of Director Bettencourt.

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**Transit Times**
Published monthly by the ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT
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Telephone (510) 654-7878

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>WARD</th>
<th>OFFICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOHN McDONNELL</td>
<td></td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROY NAKADEGAWA</td>
<td>Ward III</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAY RINEHART</td>
<td>Ward II</td>
<td>Director at Large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILLIAM E. BERTN</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ward IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEAN A. HOLMES</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ward V</td>
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**MANAGEMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>OFFICE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ROBERT E. NISBET</td>
<td>General Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWRENCE A. ROSENBERG</td>
<td>Assistant General Manager for Administration and District Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBERT J. SHAMON</td>
<td>Assistant General Manager for Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RICHARD H. BERTZ</td>
<td>Acting Maintenance Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. DALE GOODMAN</td>
<td>Transportation Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTO D. GOULD</td>
<td>Claims Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN A. KRAJER</td>
<td>Purchases and Stores Mgr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWRENCE C. KURT</td>
<td>Treasurer-Controller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONALD S. LARSON</td>
<td>Manager of Planning and Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BETTY S. LYNCH</td>
<td>Acting Personnel Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STANLEY C. PEACE</td>
<td>Superintendent of Safety and Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARREN E. ROBINSON</td>
<td>Transportation Engineer</td>
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**Area Transportation Terminal Authority**

AC Transit
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Oakland, California 94612