

NEWSLETTER

KPTA To Hold Information & Training Sessions

On the opposite year of the Association's conference, KPTA sponsors a training session which is given by a nationally known instructor. This year's training program, which will be held on Friday, September 16, is *Practical Financial Management for Non-Financial Managers*.

This training will cover the following topics:

- establishing financial policy;
- basic accounting concepts;
- developing financial statements and reports;
- budgeting techniques;
- basic cost allocation principles;
- the role of internal versus external financial reporting;
- financial analysis;
- generally accepted accounting procedures;
- the auditing process;
- asset and liability management; - short and long range transit financial problems and potential solutions;

On the first day of the meeting (Thursday, September 15) we will have three separate sessions:

- The first session will cover funding and coordination, including Medicaid and Title III. Several changes have taken place with regard to non-emergency medical transportation and others may take place regarding Title III.
- The second session will cover the process by which a professional

MRO service can be recruited and contracted with to handle your company's drug testing. We will also look at the reporting process which will be required for both drug and alcohol testing.

- The third session will be the KPTA general membership and Annual Meeting.

REGISTRATION

To register for this fall's sessions, please complete the registration form on the back page and return it with the appropriate fees (\$25 per person) to FTSB at 1460 Newtown, Lexington, KY 40511, before September 1, 1994.

The \$25 fee will cover some of the costs of the session. IT DOES NOT COVER TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Division of Multimodal Programs, has underwritten the cost of the training this year through RTAP funding.

ACCOMMODATIONS

A block of rooms has been reserved at the French Quarter Suites. The room rate is \$89 per night. Two free breakfast buffet certificates come with each room.

To reserve a room, please contact the French Quarter Suites directly, before September 6, at 606-268-0060 and tell them that you are with the KPTA group.

What's Inside:

Transit System Spotlight . . 2	Rodeo Semi-Finals 4
The Cabinet's Corner 3	ADA Revision Notice 5
KPTA Golf Outing 3	New WBE 5
River City Among Best. 4	The High Cost of Stress . . . 5
Medicaid Out To Bid 4	Evaluation Workbook 6

Transit System Spotlight – Green River Intra-County Transit System (GRITS)



This month we go back out west to Owensboro, Kentucky to spotlight The Green River Intra-County Transit System, which is a service of Audubon Community Services.

Buddy came to GRITS in 1977 as the manager for the newly formed service and went right to work. He has watched GRITS grow from a system with a hand full of vans with few service hours to a system with over 24 vans and buses operating seven days a week. The service has changed right along with the number of vehicles. GRITS provides a demand response service in the counties of Davies, Hancock, Henderson, Ohio, McLean, Union and Webster, as well as the paratransit service for the Owensboro Transit System.

I spoke to Buddy Fuqua, transportation manager for GRITS and current KPTA president about how the system began and how it has changed over the years. It was interesting to find out that Buddy and his family have been in transportation for quite some time. Fuqua Bus Lines once rolled down the streets of Owensboro and the roads to Indianapolis. Buddy said that his family sold the business just a couple of years before ICC deregulation. As he looks back, that was a good move.

Many people have commented about the system's name, so I asked Buddy what enthused someone to call a transit system GRITS. He said that when the system started, there was a planner who worked at the Green River Area Development District who wanted to give the system a catchy name. So after much contemplation she came up with the Green River Intra-County Transit System. Her name was Tonya Grits.

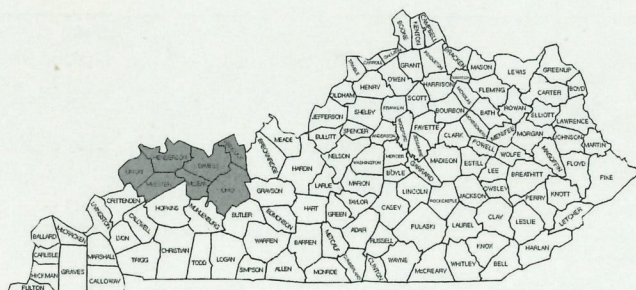


The GRITS office staff. Pictured from left to right are Brenda Payne, Dispatcher; Joni Holmes, backup dispatcher and Buddy Fuqua, Transportation Manager

Think about it ...

*It isn't what
you know
that counts;
it's what you
think of - in time.*

anonymous



The Cabinet's Corner

New Name

As most of you already know, the Division of Mass Transportation is now the Division of Multimodal Programs. This was effective July 15, 1994 as the result of the reorganization of the Transportation Cabinet. The Division of Multimodal Programs is under the Office of Intermodal Planning within the Department of Highways. The Division will also be moving to new offices. The tentative date for this move is October 15, 1994. The new address will be announced at a later date.

Alcohol & Drug Training

The Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Implementation Manual for Drug and Alcohol Regulations in Mass Transit is now being printed and will be distributed at the upcoming statewide Drug & Alcohol training (not the KPTA training) to be given by the Division of Multimodal Programs. The date(s) for this training will be announced before the end of September.

After this training is held, regional training will be given by the Cabinet on *Reasonable Cause Drug and Alcohol Testing*. This will be accomplished with an interactive training program developed through FTA. This training consists of VHS Videotapes and a Discussion Leader's Guide. The training package will be distributed at the session(s).

The Multimodal Programs division is receiving periodic guidance from FTA regarding the Drug & Alcohol Regulations. Technical Amendments and changes are being executed. Please contact the Division if you have questions.

Maintenance/Operations

A mass mailing concerning contractor maintenance/operations will be forthcoming to all Section 18 and Section 16 agencies. A recent audit on operations and maintenance of FTA funded buses by contractors under contract to grantees revealed that in some cases the contractors were not performing the required preventive and other maintenance in a thorough and timely manner.

Codification

Public Law 103-272 changed the statutory scheme of FTA's State formula assistance program as follows:

- (1) The formula assistance for elderly persons and persons with disabilities is now codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 5310, and Section 16 of the Federal Transit Act, as amended, 49 U.S.C. app. Section 1612 has been repealed; and
- (2) The Formula assistance program for nonurbanized areas is now codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 5311, and Section 18 of the Federal Transit Act, As amended, 49 U.S.C. app. Section 1614 has been repealed.

A Couple of Things to Note

Mass mailings have gone out to all Section 16 and Section 18 agencies regarding the following: FTA's decision to allow Section 18 systems to provide Head Start Transportation; The annual process necessary to provide charter service; The correct procedure for reimbursement or approved capital and RTAP expenses; Bus testing program status and regulatory requirements; and, issues concerning the sub-contracting of services and operating authority.

It's Worth The Drive to Putt Around at the First Annual KPTA Golf Outing

On Wednesday, September 14 at 1:00 p.m. at Lakeside Golf Course in Lexington, KPTA will hold its first annual golf outing and skins match. So get a foursome together or join us in the lottery, either way we are sure to have fun.

Entry fees are \$35 per person and cover the cost of greens fees, carts and refreshments.

We are also looking for sponsors so please contact Ned Sheehy if you know of a company that is interested.

To register, please return the registration form and appropriate fees, before September 6, to FTSB. Call Ned at 606-233-0066 to reserve a spot.



If you did not receive a copy of any of the aforementioned items, please contact the Division of Multimodal Programs at (502) 564-7433.

Transit Authority of River City Ranks Among the Best

TARC's operating expense per passenger trip was just 76% of the national average.

A study was conducted by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, to research transportation efficiency. The Center of Interdisciplinary Transportation Studies, reviewed the costs of usage of 102 of the nations largest transit systems over a four-year period and found TARC to be the third most cost-effective. Louisville's system ranked in the top ten in each of the four years studied.

Some of the study findings were that: TARC's cost effectiveness is the result of low operating costs and high area coverage; TARC's operating expense

per passenger trip was just 76% of the national average; and that TARC's ridership, when compared to Louisville's population was twice the national average.

How did they do it, you might ask. According to the study they, kept their fares low to encourage ridership, serve markets that will yield the greatest ridership, provide compact service coverage, keep costs low and subsidies to a minimum.

Congratulations TARC!!!

Some Medicaid Business May Go Out To Bid

According to an August 1, report from the Associated Press, Masten Childers, Secretary for the Cabinet for Human Resources, has submitted a request for a waiver to the Department of Health and Human Services that would allow the Commonwealth to seek competitive bids for transportation in areas where fraud is suspected.

Last year the state spent \$26 million on Medicaid trips. \$13.5 million was for non-emergency.

This topic will be discussed at the KPTA fall meeting and training session September 15 & 16 at the French Quarter Suites in Lexington. Please see the meeting notice on page 1.

KPTA Holding Its Rodeo Semi-finals

FYI

According to Urban Transport News, federal transit assistance through the third quarter of this year totals \$3.5 billion. Last year, by this time, the total was \$3.2 billion.

KPTA is holding its Rodeo semi-finals for Section 18, Section 16 and paratransit systems.

Where: Eastern Kentucky University's Traffic Safety Course in Richmond, Kentucky.

When: Saturday, September 17 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

This competition will allow each transit system to crown its best. Each system's winner will then be brought together to compete in the state final in April 1995.

Each agency is encouraged to send their best drivers to compete. To make the most out of the event, we ask that you also have individual agency awards.

Accommodations

A block of 16 rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn in Richmond for those systems needing to travel long distances. The room rate is \$39 for both a single or a double. 10 of the rooms are doubles (non-smoking) six of the rooms are kings (smoking). To reserve a room, call Patty Hoover at 606-623-9220 and mention the Kentucky Public Transit Association block. Cut-off date is August 31.

Registration

An entry fee of \$15 is required for all drivers. This will cover the cost of the course, refreshments and lunch. Send in a registration form and appropriate fee to FTSB before September 6. Call Ned at 606-233-0066 to reserve a spot on the course.

ADA Revision Notice of Proposed Rule Making is Published

The Department of Transportation published an NPRM on July 21, 1994 that could change several aspects of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In brief, the proposed rules would:

- Allow fixed route systems to choose which bus stops at which they would pick-up and drop off passengers with disabilities because of terrain;
- Change the requirements affecting certain private schools that provide

fixed route transportation;

- Eliminate the paratransit requirement which affords passengers 14 day advance booking of trips;
- Eliminate the full process of submitting paratransit updates if a system is already in compliance.

If you have any questions or would like a copy of the NPRM please contact Ned Sheehy at (606) 233-0066. Final comment date is October 19, 1994.

New WBE to be welcomed

Please add the following name to your DBE/WBE listing under Accounting/Audit:

Lillian Cushny, C.P.A.
169 East Reynolds Road, Suite 201-B
Lexington, Kentucky 40517

The Division of Multimodal Programs will be sending out a new complete listing within the next couple of months.

The High Cost of Stress

Fortune Magazine calls the 90's the Age of Overwork. The United Nations International Labor Organization considers stress to be the 20th Century disease. *INC Magazine* recently quoted the CEO of a major corporation, "at every level of the organization...the big concern is stress. We are working overtime because we don't want to add to payroll. Our salespeople are pushed to the limit. We are a very, very successful company, and yet I wonder how long we can go on like this. How long can I go on?"

The number of people who consider their job highly stressful has more than doubled since 1985, according to Health and Human Services and Northwestern National Life of Minneapolis. According to another poll, only 4% of workers consider their jobs relatively free of stress, and at least one in seven is considering quitting because of the stress.

What one person considers stressful, however, another may consider challenging. When stress becomes an inherent part of a job, long term productivity requires that the job description be modified, compensation be adjusted, or both.

If stress is short term, it can be absorbed by most people. When it is a way of life, it is a time bomb that portends serious injury to all affected parties. The International Labor Organization estimates that stress costs U.S. industry \$200 billion a year in diminished productivity, increased workers' compensation claims, higher rates of absenteeism, and medical expenses. As managers have become aware of these costs they have begun to look for ways to address the problem.

Source: *Personnel-ly Speaking*, July/August 1994

From the Road

A Signal Problem

The following anecdote was sent in by a Section 16 agency. They asked that the system's name not be included for obvious reasons.

The dispatcher had just given out a couple of trips to a relatively new driver. Being new made the process a little bit more time consuming. But such lengthy discussions were common, especially when the driver barely knew how to get out of their own neighborhood prior to their employment as a bus driver.

Another new driver blared out loudly across the airwaves, "base, my turn signals have gone out and you spent so much time on that last call, I've had to make three turns since you began."

The dispatcher responded back, "if you can, why not head on down to the garage to have it checked out."

"But how do I signal?" asked the driver.

"Use the arm signals." said the dispatcher.

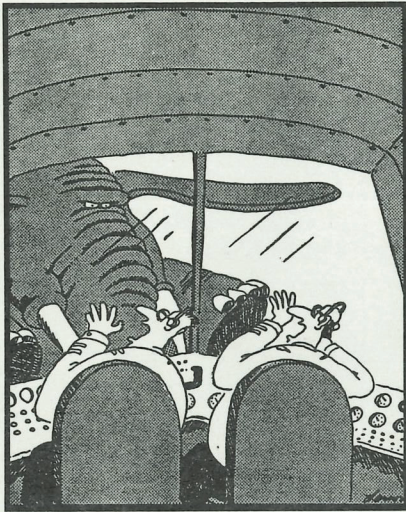
The driver cleared the transaction with, "10-4."

About ten seconds passed when the driver said, "120 to base."

"Go ahead 120" said the dispatcher.

"How am I going to get my right arm out of the bus?"

Human Service Transportation Evaluation Workbook is Available



Becoming a rogue in his later years,
Dumbo terrorized the world's flyways.

For many agencies throughout the Commonwealth, coordination of transportation among transit systems and human service agencies is a difficult process to begin, implement and maintain.

The Center for Urban Transportation Research for the Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Commission has formulated an evaluation workbook that can be used by either a transit or human service agency to give a base by which to work toward coordination. Some of the information is only applicable to Florida, which requires coordinated transportation.

If you would like more information about the workbook, please contact Ned Sheehy at (606) 233-0066.

The KPTA Newsletter is published monthly for the Kentucky Public Transit Association by Federated Transportation Services of the Bluegrass with the financial support of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Division of Mass Transportation and RTAP. Any comments, suggestions or questions should be addressed to Ned Sheehy, FTSB, 1460 Newtown Pike, Suite J, Lexington, KY 40511

Fall Training, Golf & Rodeo Registration

Please complete and return before September 6, 1994.

Agency Name _____

Name(s) *Please write "golf", "training," and/or "Rodeo" next to all events each person will be attending.*

Please check all appropriate events:

Golf Outing – Number of Players	_____ @ \$35	=	_____
KPTA sessions & training – Number attending	_____ @ \$25	=	_____
ROADEO semi-finals – Number participating	_____ @ \$15	=	_____
	TOTAL	=	_____

If additional space is needed, please make copies.
If you have any questions please call Ned Sheehy at 606-233-0066.