

KPTA NEWSLETTER

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ITS ALMOST SPRING

H.R. 1079 TO BRING ABOUT TRANSIT FUNDING EQUITY

As reported by CTAA, Representative Nick Rahall (D-WV) and a bipartisan group of seven colleagues in the House introduced the **Mobility Assistance Act of 1991** to the Surface Transportation Subcommittee on February 21.

This single piece of legislation could more than double the amount of UMTA funding available to rural areas and cities of less than 200,000 in population. The main objective of this legislation is to assist the low income-transit dependent, i.e. the elderly and disabled.

The MAA will bring about the much sought after equity that all Section 18 and small city systems have been hoping for.

Please contact your representative and Senators to show your support for this legislation.

TRANSIT APPRECIATION DAY!!

Wednesday, May 15 is Transit Appreciation Day throughout the nation. The theme for this year is "Transit Wants You...." This slogan was chosen to allow local agencies and systems to complete the sentence to suit the needs or trends in their local communities, such as, "Transit Wants You to conserve fuel."

WELCOME BACK BRENDA

We would like to congratulate Brenda Rice on her new position as Manager of the Kentucky River Foothills Development Council's new Generations Center in Clark County. Brenda took this position January 2, 1991 after a two-and-a-half year tenure at CTAA in Washington, D.C..

Brenda, former KPTA President ('87-'88) is very excited about her new position and looks forward to being able to get back to the grass-roots of social service.

The KRFDC's Generations Center is the first of its kind in Kentucky and is a highly innovative project that will house and intertwine the Head Start, Aging Center as well as other community programs. According to Brenda the project received the Cabinet for Human Resources' "Community Achievement Award" in 1990.

Brenda did want everyone to continue supporting their state and national associations. She went on to say that the national associations are in need of information; they can only set goals that are supported by input from the smaller groups.

Once again welcome back Brenda.

ADA CONFERENCE TO BE HELD

Though the final regulations for the ADA are not due out of Washington until early summer, discussion of the act and its impact will be the topic of a workshop be held by the National Easter Seals Society, APTA and CTAA. Gail Mayeux of the Division of Mass Transportation will be attending and reporting to us about the conference.

The workshop will follow Legislative Conferences held by both CTAA and APTA.

RTAP COMMITTEE TO MEET MARCH 15

If you need training or technical assistance funds, contact your regional committee member as soon as possible.

ADMINISTRATION WANTS MAJOR CHANGES IN TRANSIT

According to CTAA, the Bush Administration sent its fiscal 1992 recommendations on transit funding to Congress as well as proposals on this years re-authorization of transit programs. Some of the most important aspects are:

- ⇒ Total UMTA funding would be \$3.3 billion over the next four years
- ⇒ Most all funding would come from the Mass Transit account of the Highway trust fund.
- ⇒ A minimum of \$89 million a year would be allocated for Section 18.
- ⇒ 16(b)2 capital assistance would increase to \$45 million a year.
- ⇒ Non-federal match will rise to 40% for capital assistance.
- ⇒ Section 9, 18 and 16(b)2 apportionments would be sent in a lump sum to the states for their distribution.
- ⇒ The push for flexibility in funding would allow transit assistance funds to be used for highway projects and vice-versa.
- ⇒ The establishment of an operating assistance cap in the Section 18 program.
- ⇒ Planning, training and technical assistance funds would become a fixed portion of the total funding.

Along the same lines, APTA in general and Jack R. Gilstrap in particular, are calling the Administration's re-authorization proposal pro-highway and will hinder the initiatives that have been mandated by Congress such as the Clean Air Act and The American's with Disabilities Act.

Gilstrap, Vice President of APTA, states that the proposal "continues to emphasize the movement of cars and not people by proposing a no-growth policy for mass transit, but a 40 percent increase in federal highway spending." "Yes there is a recognition of the federal role in transit, but where's the balance?" questioned Gilstrap.

Samuel Skinner, Secretary of the U.S. DOT says that the bill "will set the United States on the right course for the 1990's." Skinner hopes that the emphasis on capital spending will encourage more public and private investment in transit allowing for its expansion. Time will only tell if this belief will hold true.

MOYNIHAN'S BILL COULD BE MATSUI'S OR RANGEL'S OR...

Senator Moynihan (D-NY) introduced a tax-free transit benefit bill that mirrors several others on Capitol Hill. According to Moynihan the current law is biased against transit and inherently encourages the use of single occupancy vehicles.

Moynihan's bill looks to raise the tax-free \$15 limit to \$60 allowing company perks encouraging transit use.

As this newsletter reported last year, Representative Matsui (D-Cal) introduced a bill very similar. Both Moynihan's and Matsui's look to increase the tax-free amount setting an equitable base with other company benefits that involve an employee's commute to work.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS: HERE'S WHAT THE EMPLOYEES WANT

If it is becoming more difficult for you to keep good employees, you might want to remember why most people like their jobs. Most employees want:

- To be recognized as individuals. Get to know each employees's likes and dislikes. This enables you to work effectively with each person.
- To have pride in their work. Be sure that all employees know how their efforts help the company's mission. Provide appreciation and praise for a job well done.
- A sense of belonging. People operate more and produce more when they can identify with a successful group.
- Fair treatment. Employees must feel that policies are fair and clearly communicated. They must also feel that policies are administered in a consistent way.
- A climate that encourages employees to express ideas. Encourage people to come to you with their ideas.

Source: Arthur R. Pell, "The Human Side" Dale Carnegie & Associates Inc, 8 Fellowsworth Road, West Hartford, CT 06107

TARC PRESENTS THE FIRST JAMES G. APPLE AWARD

Calvin A. Burton, a machinist for TARC, has become the first recipient of TARC's James G. Apple Award.

The award, which bears the name of the former chairman of the TARC Board of Directors, is a component of the TIPS employee suggestion program. It is to be given annually to the employee whose suggestion has provided the greatest benefit to the taxpayers of Jefferson County and/or TARC's customers.

Burton, who has been with TARC since 1982, designed an in-chassis drill fixture that allows mechanics to perform a particular modification procedure without removing the alternator from the coach. Burton's innovative idea is estimated to have saved TARC approximately \$14,000 in mechanic labor.

Burton was presented with the James G. Apple Award at the February meeting of TARC's Board of Directors. He received an engraved plaque and a gift certificate and his name was placed on a plaque that will hang permanently in the TARC Board Room. He had previously received a cash award of \$1,800 as part of the TIPS suggestion program.

ATTRACTING PEOPLE FOR FUND RAISING

When trying to attract people to get involved in your organization or to donate to it, consider these suggestions from Richard P. Trenbeth, fund raising consultant and author of The Membership Mystique:

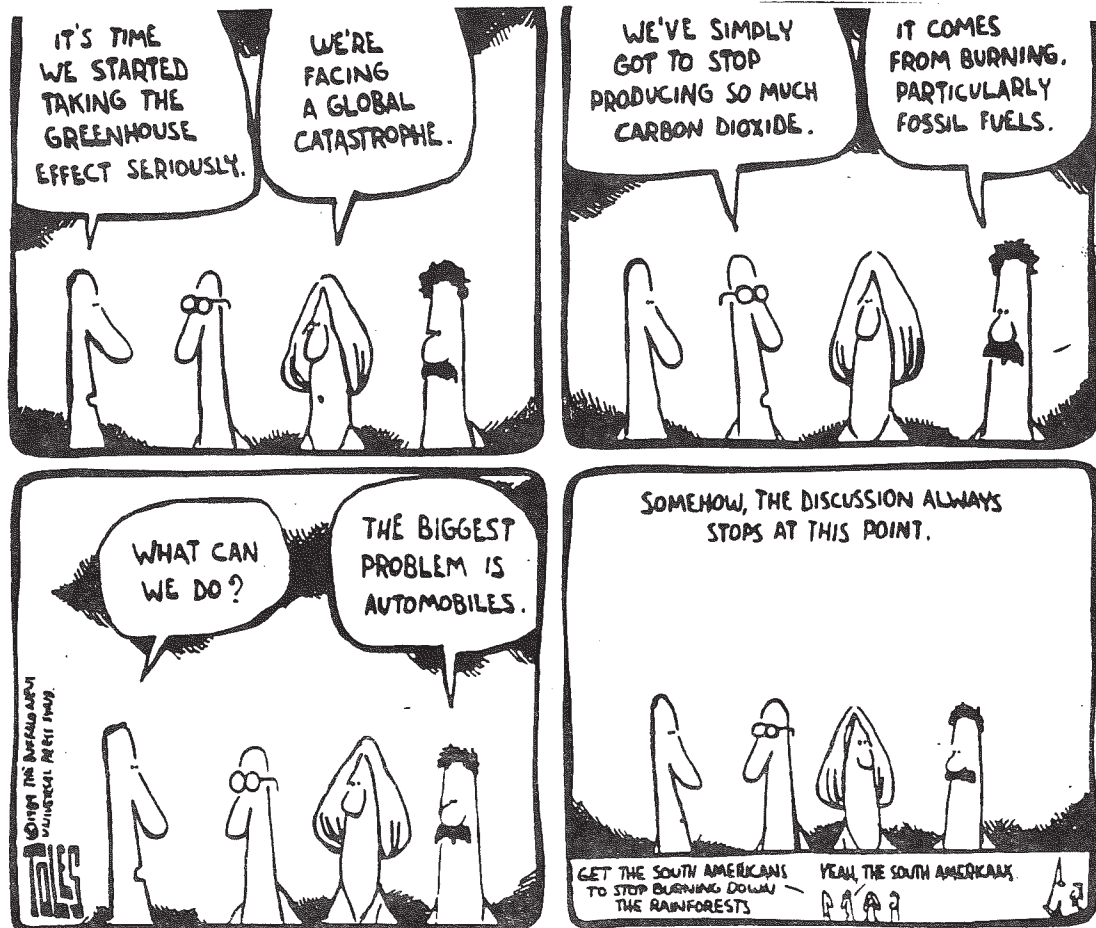
Recruit middle age people whose children have left home. They have more time and more discretionary income.

Show how your organization relates to their needs, such as the sense of helping, the offer of authoritative information or the promise of social events. Remember that some people are lonely and welcome the opportunity to receive regular mail.

Courtesy: Communications Briefings Source: FRI Monthly portfolio, 12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 450, Rockville, MD 20852

NEW YORK CDL: THE TAKE HOME OPTION

According to the Indiana Transit Association News, the New York DOT has upset many governmental and industrial leaders with its decision to administer the written CDL test on a take-home basis. The American Trucking Association bitterly opposes the take-home test for fear that people other than the driver will complete the test.



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