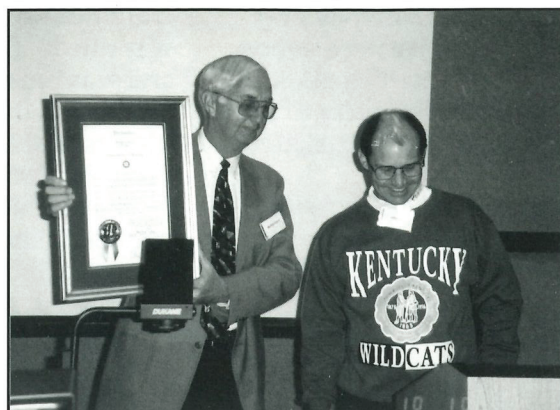


Biennial Conference Shows Public Transit Alive in '95



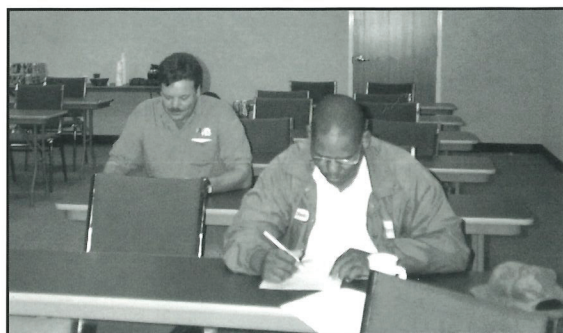
John Carr, Deputy State Highway Engineer, right, presents KPTA President, Buddy Fuqua, left, with a proclamation from Governor Brereton Jones, declaring Oct. 8-14 as Public Transit Week for the state of Kentucky.

Nearly on-hundred transit professionals attended KPTA's 1995 Biennial Conference at the Bowling Green Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Over the next two days, these enthusiastic transit professionals would cover important management-related issues facing all transit systems today. Deputy State Highway Engineer, John Carr brought greetings from the Transportation Department and presented KPTA President, Buddy Fuqua with a proclamation from Governor Brereton Jones declaring Oct. 8-14, Public Transit Week for Kentucky.

The meeting was organized by Kentucky River Foothills' Florence Tandy, in

Continued page 2

Dynamite Drivers Dare "The Course"



Jeff Jackson of RTEC, left, and John Schultz of Red Cross Wheels of Louisville, right, check their answers to the Paratransit Rodeo Written Competition one last time before turning them in to Rodeo Event Coordinator, Sue Jeffers.

Prior to the Biennial KPTA Conference, transit professionals participated in two days of pre-conference activities. Activities began early Monday morning, Oct. 9, with the KPTA Paratransit Rodeo Competition. The Rodeo Competition was held at the WKU Institute for Economic Development in Bowling Green, Kentucky and was organized by Bluegrass Community Action Agency's Sue Jeffers. At the Competition, ten of the state's best drivers tested both their knowledge and skill as they competed in the Rodeo Competition's written test and obstacle course. Those placing in the competition were as follows:

1st Place: Wilma Courtney, BUS Program, BGCAA

2nd Place: Bob Goetz, Grits Program, Audubon Area Community Service, Inc.

3rd Place: Angela Willoughby, Head Start Program, BGCAA

The winners of the competition were honored Wednesday evening at the KPTA Awards Banquet. Congratulations to all drivers placing in the event, and good luck to Wilma Courtney who will represent KPTA in the CTAA Rodeo Competition in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in May, 1996.

Other drivers who participated in the Rodeo were the following: Sue Coy, Red Cross Wheels of Louisville; Jeff Jackson, RTEC; Valerie Hertz, DBDC, Jackson County; Catherine Mays, DBDC, Clay County; John Schultz, Red Cross Wheels of Louisville; Davis Snyder, Kentucky River Foothills; and Ken Triplett, Senior Services of Northern Kentucky.



Kimberly Clay of Kentucky River Foothills judges one of the Rodeo's dynamite drivers as they make a right turn during the KPTA Paratransit Rodeo Competition.

Continued from front



KPTA Conference Chairman, Florence Tandy, welcomes transit professionals to the Biennial KPTA Conference during the Opening Session of the conference.

conjunction with the Division of Multimodal Programs of KYTC and funded through RTAP. According to Tandy, "this is the largest public transit-related conference held within the Commonwealth." The Biennial Meeting was officially opened on Wednesday morning, Oct. 11, with the theme "Alive in 1995." Vickie Bourne served as moderator for the Opening Session which was titled: "Our Best Ideas in Transit." This session gave system managers an opportunity to gain new ideas and learn about other transit operations within the state.

Following the Opening Session, conference participants were informed about both the legal aspects of hiring and firing, and positive marketing techniques. Conference participants were motivated to adopt and maintain personal policies and enhance their public image. The morning sessions ended with the Annual KPTA Business Meeting and luncheon.

At the KPTA Business Meeting and Luncheon, the following were elected as officers for the 1996-97 term: President: Beecher Hudson; Vice-President: Gary Kitchin; Secretary: Mistianna Barnes; and Treasurer: Jim Seibert. When asked about his expectations regarding KPTA, newly elected KPTA President, Beecher Hudson responded, "I would like everyone to

participate in KPTA more than they ever have. We need everyone's participation and ideas as we try to put together a legislative agenda."

In addition to the election, former President, Sue Jeffers discussed the Governors response to a letter sent by former KPTA President, Buddy Fuqua. According to Jeffers, Governor

session on the current status of federal funding assistance. This session was titled: "Fancy Funding Focus," and was presented by Jerry Ross, Director of the Division of Multimodal Programs. According to Ross, in 1996, public transit will receive 4.2 billion dollars in funding, approximately \$600 million decrease. Such a decrease calls for phasing out federal operating assistance, reduction of the federal share of transit operating capital funding from 80% to 50%, and elimination of transit planning and research funds. To off-set this reduction, Ross sug-

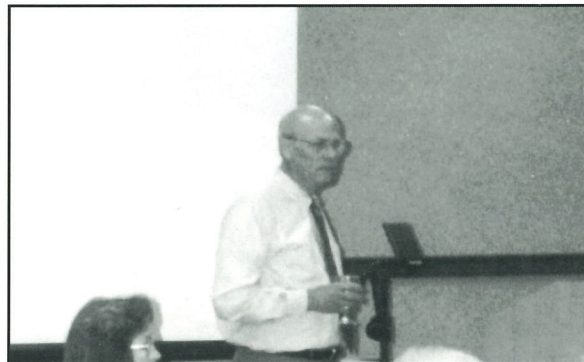
gests that public transit operators advocate the necessity of their service to state legislatures and local officials. The conference theme: "Alive in 1995," was reiterated to encourage transit managers and operators to "hang in there" and creatively combat any funding cuts that may occur.

Mike LeBherz from SAMI followed with a drug and alcohol training session. LeBherz's presentation was a premiere session of the FTA required drug and alcohol training program for supervisors.

As the first day of the Conference drew to an end, conference participants gathered to commemorate a successful year of transit operations at the Annual KPTA Awards Banquet. Dr. Glenn Lohr of Western Kentucky University was the keynote speaker, holding the



Vickie Bourne, top, and Dallous Reed, bottom, encourage conference participants to be "Alive in 1995".



Brereton Jones wrote Fuqua that he had asked Secretary Masten Childers of the Cabinet for Human Resources and Secretary Don Kelly of the Transportation Cabinet to contact him regarding the matter of non-emergency medical transportation. It is the hope of KPTA that through the Transportation Cabinet, a coordinated, statewide approach to medical transportation can be provided.

Following the Annual KPTA Luncheon, the afternoon portion of the conference resumed with a

Continued on page 7



Speaker of the House, Jody Richards, discusses Kentucky's future at the KyTC Luncheon during the last day of the conference

Great Golf And Terrific Tours



What about Bob? Ned Sheehy, right, presents Bob Gardner of Central Kentucky Community Action, left, with a \$240.00 cash prize for having the winning team in the KPTA Golf Scramble.

square foot facility. A tour was organized by Barren River ADD's Kriesten Jagers. Bowling Green Community Action's Sheila La Grande conducted the tour, surprising conference participants with an unplanned, special tour of the General Motors Corvette Assembly Plant located one-quarter mile from the National Corvette Museum.

On Tuesday, Oct. 10, conference participants teed off at the Second Annual KPTA Golf Scramble held at Bowling Green's luxurious Hartland Golf Course. Many thanks to Daniel Boone Development Council's Frank Jones and FTSB's Ned Sheehy for coordinating the event and congratulations to the Central Kentucky Community Action golf team for winning the event.

If golf wasn't your game, conference participants had an opportunity to visit some of Bowling Green's tourist attractions. Several conference participants "revved their engines" at the National Corvette Museum. The Museum, featuring more than 50 Corvettes was a 68,00



Those who toured the Bowling Green Corvette Museum and General Motors Corvette Plant are from left to right: Joe Sheilley, Gail Mayeux, Mistianna Barnes, Sheila La Grande, Sue Stivers, and Kim Clay.

Kentucky Rural Transit Assistance Program Committee Members

Midwest Division

Bonnie Rhoads
Transit manager
Owensboro Transit System
115 W. Fourth Street
Owensboro, KY 42301
502-687-8570

Central Division

Mistianna Barnes
FTSB
1460 Newtown pike
Lexington, KY 40511
606-233-0066

Northeast Division

Ray Young
Maysville Transit System
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Maysville, KY 41056
606-564-9411

West Division

Mark Davis
Purchase Area Development District
PO Box 588
502-247-7171

Southeast Division

Shirley Cummins
RTEC
PO Box 746
Mount Vernon, KY 40456
606-256-9835

State Level

Dallous Reed, RTAP
Chairman
Vickie Bourne, KY RTAP
Coordinator
Division of Multimodal Programs
KY Transportation Cabinet
125 Holmes street
3rd Floor, State Office Bldg. Annex
Frankfort, KY 40622
502-564-7433

1996 CTEA Training Programs scheduled from Jan. to Jun.

Program	Date
Fixed-Route Scheduling/Run Cutting	Feb. 26-28
Rural/Specialized Transit Management Workshop	Mar. 25-29
Paratransit Operations Management and Contracting	Apr. 15-17
Passenger Assistance — "Training to Proficiency"	Apr. 29-May 2
Paratransit Scheduling/Dispatching Workshop	May 19-21
Travel Training for Seniors	Jun. 10-12
Please call 414-227-337 for more registration information	

KPTA

KPTA/KyTC AWARDS COMMEND

During the Annual Banquet and Closing Session of this year's KPTA Conference, many transit professionals and The awards ranged from Overall Public Transit Agency of the Year to Dispatcher of the Year. Congratulations to all

Dispatcher of the Year



Barbara Chaney of Senior Services of Northern Kentucky, left, presents the Dispatcher Of The Year Award to Shirley Parke of Kentucky River Foothills. The award was presented at the KPTA Awards Banquet on Oct. 11, 1995.

Driver of the Year



Barbara Chaney of Senior Services of Northern Kentucky, left, presents the Driver of the Year Award to Susan Coy of Louisville Red Cross Wheels. The award was presented at the KPTA Awards Banquet on Oct. 11, 1995.

Volunteer of the Year



Barbara Chaney of Senior Services of Northern Kentucky, left, presents the Volunteer Of The Year Award to Chuck Steinhof of Louisville Red Cross Wheels. Steinhof accepted the award on behalf of volunteer, Harry Cannon. The award was presented at the KPTA Awards Banquet on Oct. 11, 1995.

KPTA Presidents



Newly elect KPTA President, Beecher Hudson, right, presents former KPTA President, Buddy Fuqua, left, with an engraved time piece to commemorate his two years of presidential service to KPTA.

1st Place KPTA Roaddeo



Keirsten Jagers, left, awards Wilma Courtney, Bus driver for Bluegrass Community Action Agency 1st place in the Paratransit Roaddeo Competition at the annual KPTA Awards Banquet.

3rd Place KPTA Roaddeo



Keirsten Jagers, left, awards Angela Willoughby, Head Start Driver for Bluegrass Community Action Agency 3rd place in the Paratransit Roaddeo Competition at the Annual KPTA Awards Banquet.

2nd Place KPTA Roaddeo



Keirsten Jagers, right, awards Buddy Fuqua, Director for Audubon Area Community services, Inc., left, 2nd place in the Paratransit Roaddeo Competition. Fuqua received the award on behalf of Grits driver, Bob Goetz.

ADA UPDATE

The Department of Transportation has revised The Accessibility Handbook which was first published in 1992. This handbook supplements ADA regulations and is quite useful for transit managers and planners.

The handbook provides clear directions, helpful suggestions and relevant examples of ADA features. It is available from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161.

Source: Transit Connections, September, 1995

KPTA EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE

agencies from around the Commonwealth were commended for their exceptional performance and hard work of these outstanding winners.

Overall Public Transit



Vickie Bourne, left, presents the Overall Public Transit Agency Award to Bonnie Rhoads of Owensboro Transit System, right.

Outstanding 5310



Vickie Bourne, left, presents the Outstanding Section 5310 Award to Beecher Hudson of Louisville Red Cross Wheels, center, as Jerry Ross, right, announces the award.

Outstanding 5311



Vickie Bourne, left, presents the Outstanding Section 5311 Award to Frank Jones of Daniel Boone Development Council, right.

Outstanding Transit Manager



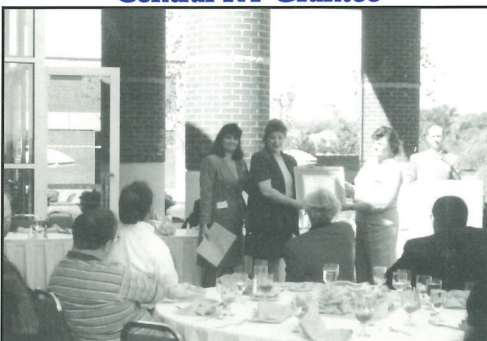
Vickie Bourne, left, presents the Outstanding Transit Manager Award to Greg Hamlin of Sandy Valley Transit, right, as Jerry Ross, center, announces the award.

Outstanding DBE/WBE



Vickie Bourne, left, presents the Outstanding DBE/WBE Participation Award to Clarence Lasseter of NKT, right.

Central KY Grantee



Vickie Bourne, left, presents the Central Kentucky Grantee Award to Melinda Stivers and Sue Jeffers of Bluegrass Community Action, center, as Jerry Ross, right, announces the award.

Western KY Grantee



Vickie Bourne, left, presents the Western Kentucky Grantee Award to Buddy Fuqua of Audubon Community Services, right.

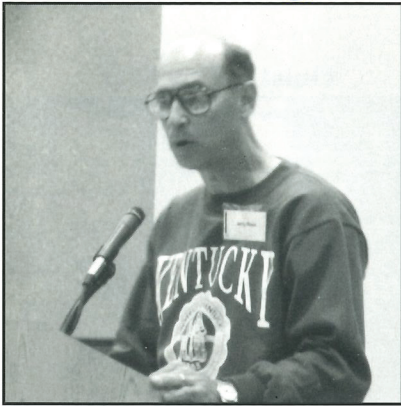
Eastern KY Grantee



Vickie Bourne, left, presents the Eastern Kentucky Grantee Award to Shirley Cummins of RTEC, right, as Jerry Ross, center announces the award. RTEC was also the recipient of the Outstanding DBE/WBE Participation Award.

KPTA

Appropriations Panel Reaches Agreement



In the session, "Fancy Funding Focus," Jerry Ross discusses the future of federal and state funding for public transit.

The House-Senate Conference Committee that must iron out differences in the two chambers' transportation appropriations bills for Fiscal Year 1996, met on October 18th, and made some significant decisions for transit appropriations. The committee is expected to send the agreed upon bill to the floors of each body of Congress by the end of October.

The preliminary decisions called for total transit appropriations to be set at \$4.021 billion, about midway between the House and Senate-passed totals of \$3.093 billion and \$4.078 billion, respectfully.

In addition, total operating

assistance was reduced to \$400 million, a 44% overall reduction. However, the compromise did call for a 25% cap on operating assistance reductions for transit in urbanized areas of 200,00 or less in population. This protection for transit systems in smaller cities will raise the average operating assistance cut for transit systems in larger urban areas to slightly more than 47%.

Unfortunately, the National Highway System approval, included in the Senate's version of transportation appropriations, was stripped out. This occurred so that the NHS approval would be handled as a separate bill. Finally, this compromise between the two chambers also set formula funding at 2,053 billion; halfway between the House's approved figure of \$2 billion and the Senate's figure of \$2.105 billion.

Stay tuned to the KPTA newsletter for future updates.

Source: Passenger Transport, October 23, 1995

Tank Institutes Schedule and Route Changes

For the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky, 1995 has been a landmark year. During the year, TANK has been sculpting its service to meet the future needs of the community. Following four months of research, in-house debate, and two public hearings, TANK added several new routes and instituted schedule and route changes on Sept. 9 under the Comprehensive Operations Analysis.

One route was eliminated because of low ridership, off-peak service was cut on several routes, and small changes were made in routing and time points on other routes. Service to the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport was the highlight of the route changes. Simultaneously, rush hour service was increased on many trips and two new express routes to Cincinnati were added from the southern part of TANK's service area. According to Jim Seibert, TANK Manager, "these changes in TANK service are geared to make the system more efficient and to increase its value to the Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati Region."

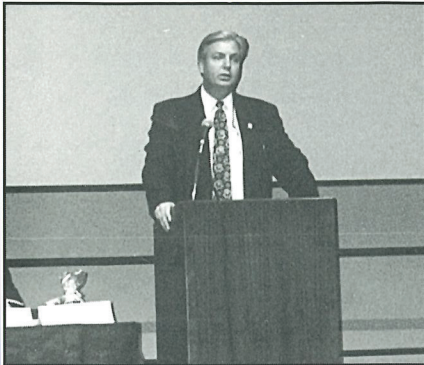
Along with the analysis came the development of new schedules, which have separate maps for inbound and outbound trips. Time points are clearly marked on each map and have been much easier to read. As the transportation needs of the community keep changing, TANK will continue to grow and change right along with them.

On-Line Computer Service To Hit Transit Industry

Soon, transit agencies will be able to participate in regional transportation planning on their own personal computers with a new on-line computer service. Such a service is being developed by Konheim and Ketcham, Inc., a transportation consulting firm. This project is the result of a \$100,000 U.S. Department of Transportation grant. Konheim and Ketcham hope to develop a service that has both an interactive format and is easily accessible to transportation professionals. This will be accomplished through the Internet and other related networks. Hopefully, this on-line program will help to make transportation planning more effective. For more information, call Carolyn Konheim at 718-330-0550.

Biennial Conference continued from page 2

LexTran Payroll Tax Narrowly Defeated



Steve Rowland, GM for LexTran, discusses the referendum for a one-quarter percent payroll tax increase for the residents of Lexington and Fayette County at the 32nd Transportation Forum. The Forum was held on Oct. 2-3, 1995 at the University of Kentucky. Rowland spoke to the Forum on behalf of public transit during the session on "Other Perspectives on Transportation Funding."

On Nov. 7, Lexington residents voiced their feelings about public transportation as they went to the polls and voted either for or against a payroll tax to prop up the city's transit system. According to LexTran GM, Steve Rowland, the county has continued to grow and expand, while LexTran's budget has remained the same. It is estimated that the tax increase

would have generated \$4.5 million next year and more than \$9 million in future years. According to Rowland, the large amount of money generated by a dedicated tax would have allowed the agency to improve and expand its service.

Unfortunately, the proposed payroll tax increase to finance LexTran was defeated 53 percent to 47 percent. Now the agency will ask the Urban County Council to give the bus system at least an additional \$700,000 to keep the service running.

Best wishes and good luck to LexTran as they work to maintain this needed public service.

Source: Lexington-Herald Leader, October 29, 1995

audience at rapt attention, as he discussed the pitfalls of personal stress and anxiety. According to Dr. Lohr, he had no idea what a profound effect laughter would have on his life. After his empowering presentation, Kriestan Jagers announced the winners of the Paratransit Rodeo Competition and Barbara Chaney distributed the KPTA Awards.

On Thursday, Oct. 12, the final day of the conference began with the session titled: "Alive in 2005: Planning for the future of transit." During this session, Dallous Reed discussed Kentucky's six-year highway plan and its influence on public transit. Reed encouraged transit managers to become involved with their local Area Development District Transportation Committees. According to Reed, such involvement will provide public transit with awareness and a clearer voice for expressing their concerns and needs.

Following the morning session, KPTA conference

participants learned to handle complaints effectively through a conflict management training session and then enjoyed a relaxing lunch at the KyTC Luncheon. The keynote speaker for the luncheon was Speaker of the House, Jody Richards. Speaker Richards outlined Kentucky's growth over the years and discussed the state's ability to meet the challenges of tomorrow. Finally, Speaker Richards offered a friendly ear to the needs and concerns of public transit. As the Master of Ceremonies, Jerry Ross presented Richards with a KPTA conference binder/portfolio.

Ross then proceeded to announce the winners of the state and regional KyTC Awards. The 1995 KPTA Conference ended with a Section 5310 and 5311 Grantees Meeting and RTAP Committee elections.

The KPTA newsletter is published for the Kentucky Transit Association by Federated Transportation Services of the Bluegrass with the financial support of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Division of Multimodal Programs and Rural Transit Assistance Program. Any comments or suggestions should be addressed to Mistianna Barnes, FTSB, 1460 Newtown Pike, Suite J, Lexington, KY 40511



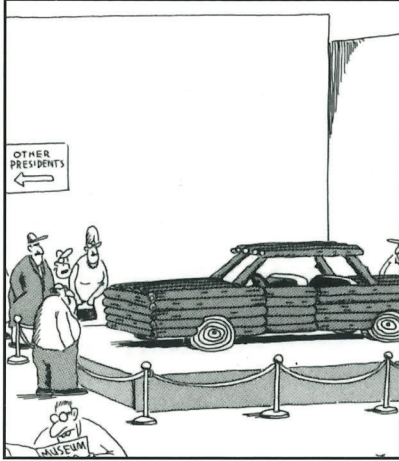
FTSB HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE-DIRECTOR

Federated Transportation Services of the Bluegrass said farewell to long-time Executive Director, Ned Sheehy. Sheehy left FTBS to continue his career at the Lexington Chamber of Commerce. At the Chamber, Sheehy resides as the new Vice-President of Public Affairs, where he is still involved in transportation.

On Sept. 19, FTSB hired new Executive-Director, Mistianna Holcomb Barnes. Barnes is a native of Murray, Kentucky and holds a M.P.A. from Western Kentucky University. Congratulations to Barnes upon her entrance into the world of transit and thank you to Sheehy for being such a fine advocate of the transit industry.

The Pioneering Spirit of Thanksgiving

An early mode of transportation



A look At The far Side

SOURCE: Cows of Our Planet
1992 Far Side collection

Happy Turkey Day! The First Thanksgiving was held by the Pilgrims in Plymouth, Massachusetts, after their first harvest sometime around 1621. They invited Native Americans to join in the celebration, and all enjoyed a feast of deer, goose, duck, oysters, eel, breads, fruit and cornmeal pudding.

President George Washington proclaimed November 26, 1789, a national Thanksgiving Day, so people could offer thanksgiving and prayer for prosperity, freedom, and hope. The day was not accepted nationally, however, until 1863, when president Lincoln declared Thanksgiving to be the last

Thursday in November. President Franklin D. Roosevelt moved the holiday to the fourth Thursday in November in 1941.

Today, Thanksgiving is usually celebrated as a family day rather than a public holiday. This Thanksgiving, KPTA hopes you counted your blessings instead of your problems. Maybe you found you have more to be thankful for than you realized. KPTA hopes you took some time to stop and think about all the wonderful things you have. Happy Thanksgiving to the Division of Multimodal Transportation, transit managers, operators, drivers and their families.



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