

## 1997 KPTA/ITA Conference Roundup

The Indiana Transportation Association (ITA) joined the Kentucky Public Transit Association (KPTA) for the first ever-joint conference in Louisville, September 9-11 with nearly two hundred transit professionals in attendance.

This year's theme was "Transportation: The Heart of the Community". John Woodford and Glenda Barry of Transit Authority of River City (TARC) were the Chair and Co-Chair of the conference respectfully.

On Wednesday evening an opening reception and dinner were held at Union Station, the headquarters of the TARC. The entertainment before dinner was a magic show for everyone's enjoyment. The KPTA Rodeo and Golf Tournament Awards were presented after dinner.

Beecher Hudson, KPTA President welcomed everyone to the conference. He wanted thank everyone for all the work that

had gone into putting on the conference. Hudson also wanted to thank the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for all their assistance.

John Carr, Deputy State Highway Engineer, brought greetings from the Transportation Secretary James Codell. Carr wanted to welcome the Indiana coalition by saying the two states are only separated by a river. He said we have great expectations for transportation with welfare to work, senior services, disabled for mobility and options for transportation choices. He said choice equals freedom and transportation equals freedom.

The second day of the conference included morning training sessions. One of the sessions being held was "Transportation Technology Applications" by Carol Schweiger,

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*Beecher Hudson, President of KPTA shows off his gift of appreciation from the association for his two years of service as President.*

## Hicks wins KPTA Transit Rodeo

The 1997 KPTA/ITA Conference

Kentucky. The Rodeo drivers included:

kicked off its activities with a Transit Rodeo on Tuesday, September 9, at the Bashford Manor Mall in Louisville. Elizabeth Hicks, driver with ARC Louisville-WHEELS, was the winner of the KPTA Transit



*Participants from the KPTA Transit Rodeo shown above with their awards on September 9 at a dinner held at TARC.*

Rodeo. Hicks will represent KPTA in the CTAA National Rodeo in Albuquerque, New Mexico next year. She was presented a first place trophy and a check for \$100. Pete King of RTEC placed second and received a trophy and \$75. The third place winner was Valerie Hurst with Daniel Boone Development District and she brought home a trophy and \$50.

There were 10 participants from seven different systems across the state of

Dave Beandin (Bluegrass Ultra-Transit System), Linda Jones (ARC Lexington-WHEELS), Janet Johnson (Owensboro Transit), Catherine Botkins and Valerie Hurst (Daniel Boone Development Council), Georgia

*Continued on Page 6*



*Linda Jones, ARC Lexington-WHEELS, competes in the KPTA Transit Rodeo as Buddy Fuqua, GRITS, judges the competition.*



## LexTran Expands Services to Nicholasville for Express Bus

LexTran's Nicholasville Express Bus Service that will begin operation on October 6 could save Nicholasville-Lexington Commuters \$2500 or more on the cost of their daily commute. According to figures received from Bluegrass AAA the 25 mile commute from Nicholasville cost the average commuter 55 cents per mile or \$ 13.75 per day. If a commuter bought LexTran's monthly pass at \$50 and used it for a 5 day/4 week commute he would save \$225 monthly or \$2700 annually.

This figure includes insurance costs, depreciation and depreciation for excess mileage, as well as ownership costs (financing, license, registration and taxes).

However, the operating costs (gas, oil, maintenance and tires) average 10.8 cents per miles or \$54 monthly. Plus, riders could get an insurance discount for not using their car for a work commute, they would save on depreciation, wear and tear, and their car would be worth more because of its low mileage.

Besides the money savings Nicholasville and surrounding area residents will arrive at work less stressed from their commute and may arrive ahead of the work day from the additional time they will have on the bus to begin their work day or simply read the newspaper. Finally, according to National Transportation studies Buses are the safest form of transportation so they may even save their own life or lives of loved ones by encouraging them to take the bus.

The new Express Bus Service will begin at 5:50 a.m. in the parking lot of the Nicholasville Wal-Mart. The Nicholasville Wal-Mart and LexTran officials have worked together to provide free parking in designated areas in the Wal-Mart parking lot for the commuter bus riders.

LexTran will provide commuter trips to Lexington from the Wal-Mart lot every half hour until 9:20 a.m. They will also make two trips around noon and provide half hour commuter trips again beginning in downtown Lexington at 4:20 p.m. The last trip to Nicholasville will begin at the Transit Center in Downtown Lexington at 6:20 p.m., arriving at Wal-mart in Nicholasville at 6:50 p.m. The Nicholasville Express will make 15 trips to Lexington from Nicholasville-eight trips in the morning, two mid-day, and five during the afternoon drive.

The Express bus will stop at Fayette Mall, Central Baptist Hospital and the University of Kentucky making it ideal for their employees. It will end at the Downtown Lexington Transit Center making it a convenient commute for those employed in downtown Lexington or riders can transfer to any LexTran route to complete their one-way commuter trip.

LexTran has been able to offer the Lexington-Nicholasville Express Bus Service through an agreement between the Lexington Transit Authority, The Commonwealth of Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, and the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government. The Cabinet will provide money for the three projects with Federal CMAQ funds up to \$384,000. The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government and LexTran will provide a local match of \$156,198 and fare box revenues are anticipated of \$80,000 with the total cost of the new route expected to be approximately \$207,000 per year.

The route is designated to lessen vehicle emissions and improve air quality in Kentucky's air quality non-attainment areas by providing transit service with limited stops to the approximately 50% of Jessamine County residents who work in Fayette County.

### **KPTA Board of Directors 1997-1999**

**The Large Systems will name their representative**

#### **LARGE SYSTEMS (5)**

**TARC - (2)  
TANK - (2)  
LEXTRAN - (1)**

#### **SMALL TRANSIT SYSTEM (4)**

**Beecher Hudson - ARC  
Louisville-Wheels  
Sue Jeffers - BUS  
Shirley Cummins - RTEC  
Buddy Fuqua - GRITS**

#### **GOVERNMENTAL/REGIONAL (2)**

**Shirley Lewis - CVADD  
Keirsten Jaggers - BRADD**

#### **MEMBERS AT LARGE (3)**

**Bob Busch - CATS  
Lois O'Keefe - CKCAC  
Vacant**

#### **RTAP REGIONS (5)**

**Barbara Chaney - SCNK  
Gary Kitchin - PTA  
Bonnie Rhoads - OTS  
Greg Hamlin - SVTS  
Pam Shepherd - FTSB**



*Steve Rowland, LexTran General Manager, and Jenny Williams, Director of Marketing/Sales, gave a presentation to the Bluegrass ADD September 8, 1997. Their presentation entailed the progress LexTran has made in the last several years.*



## KPTA Roundup.....

*Continued from Page 1*

NTI Fellow, from the National Transit Institute.

Others were shown the importance in marketing their transit system from Perry Jacobs, TARC, and Jenny Williams, LexTran. They gave some tips on how to get the most out of the media with your press releases and advertisements.

Gail Lincoln, Executive Director, with the Kentucky Disabilities Coalition described the needs for everyone to become involved and work together to make community transportation accessible for the disabled.

Halsey King, Manager of Fleet Consulting, DAVE Transportation, conducted a Maintenance Management session. Everyone was informed with the technical aspects of where maintenance is headed into the 21st Century.

Between sessions everyone was treated to the Vendor Exhibition and KPTA Resource table. This year several

vendors attended with information for the visitors.

Beecher Hudson, KPTA President, and Shirley Cummins, KPTA Secretary, conducted the drawings for the door prizes. Each organization participating in the conference was asked to bring a gift basket or framed picture representing their area to be given away. All the gifts were very nice and everyone who won a gift was very excited. Cummins was responsible for organizing the gift baskets.

The Annual Dinner was held on Wednesday night at the Galt House. The ITA, KPTA, and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet awards were presented after the dinner. Photos of the winners are on pages' four and five.

KPTA presented a transit advocacy award of appreciation to Representative Hal Rogers of the 5th District. Rogers was unable to be in attendance because the legislature was in session. Bob Mitchell accepted in the absence of Rogers. Rogers has been a strong supporter of the federal transportation programs and an advocate for public transportation. KPTA is appreciative of all his efforts. Mitchell said he wanted to express Rogers' gratitude to KPTA for this award.

On Thursday transit professionals were shown the process needed to make the transition from paratransit to

fixed route service. Jeffrey Pulis, Ph.D. with McDonald Transit Associates discussed the process needed to encourage passengers to ride a fixed route. He showed in his presentation the ways for individuals to overcome the fear of riding

a fixed route that they are not accustomed.

Also, on Thursday morning representatives from FTA Regions IV and V presented a program on Welfare to Work, Livable Communities and other Transit Oriented Development.



*Susan Schruth*

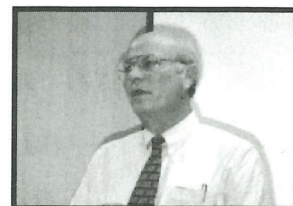
The speakers included: Susan Schruth, Region Director, FTA Region IV, James Hmurovich, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Joel Ettinger, Regional Director, FTA Region V, Doug Gereleman, Region V, and Barry Barker, Executive Director, TARC.

Gereleman said improvements in coordination, setup coalitions and explore all the social services for money could help with the transportation problems.

Schruth expanded on the progress Region IV, including Kentucky, is making toward improvements in the transportation problems. She sees transit as a positive role for welfare reform in the future. As transit providers you need to listen to your customers. She said the future must consist of maximizing your transportation system to its fullest efficiency.

The keynote speaker at lunch was Kip Banks from American Public Transit Association (APTA). William Millar, President of APTA was unable to attend because of a prior commitment. Banks said on September 4 Chairman Bud Shuster (R.Pa.) unveiled the bill reauthorizing federal surface transportation programs over three years. The Building Efficiency Through Surface Transportation Equity Act, known as BESTEA, cleared the Surface Transportation Subcommittee without any major changes. The \$103 billion highway and transit bill provides \$17.6 billion for transit and preserves the program structure established under ISTEA. The current transit funding is at \$4.4 billion and is authorized to \$6.4 billion by FY2000.

Dallous Reed, Transportation Engineer Branch Manager and Vickie Bourne, Supervisor, Public Transportation Section with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet brought the KPTA members up to date on Empower Kentucky. Reed said we hope to start a demonstration project by January 1, 1998.



*Dallous Reed*



*Beecher Hudson presents Halsey King with an official Louisville Slugger personally engraved bat.*



*Myra Rutherford Immings, Planner for FTA Region IV, helped with the KPTA Resource table.*



## 1997 KPTA/ITA Conference Honors Transportation The Heart of the Community

### Outstanding Kentucky Section 5307 Agency



1996-97 Award for Outstanding Kentucky Section 5307 for Urbanized Transportation Agency is the Transit Authority of River City (TARC). John Woodford, Asst. Executive Director of TARC, accepted the award from Vickie Bourne of KyTC.

### Outstanding Kentucky Section 5310 Agency



1996-97 Award for Outstanding Kentucky Section 5310 for the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Agency is the Bluegrass Chapter of the American Red Cross-Lexington Red Cross WHEELS. Ed Brady, Director of Transportation, accepted the award from Vickie Bourne of KyTC.

### Outstanding Kentucky Transit Manager



1996-97 Award for Outstanding Kentucky Transit Manager is Gary Kitchen of Paducah Transit Authority. Kitchen accepted the award from Vickie Bourne of KyTC.

### Outstanding Kentucky Section 5311 Agency & DBE Transit Agency



1996-97 Award for Outstanding Kentucky Section 5311 Rural Public Transportation Agency and Outstanding Utilization of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises by a transit agency is the Rural Transit Enterprises Coordinated, Inc., RTEC. Shirley Cummins, left, Executive Director of RTEC, accepted the award from Vickie Bourne of KyTC. Jerry Ross, KyTC Director of Multimodal Programs, at the podium.

### Outstanding Kentucky DBE Transit Agency

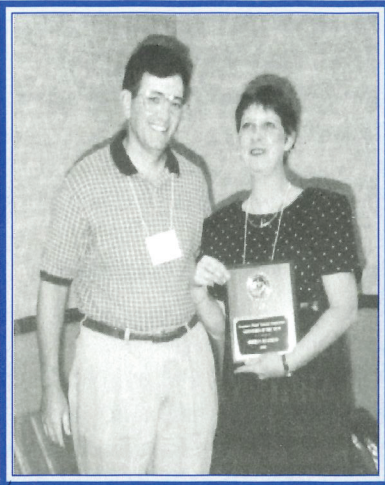


1996-97 Outstanding Utilization of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises by a transit agency is Northern Kentucky Transit. Clarence Lassetter accepts the award from Vickie Bourne, KyTC. Jerry Ross at the podium.



# *Transportation Representatives for Exceptional Work*

## **Dispatcher of the Year**



Jim Seibert, TANK, presents Theresa Bayless, Murray/Calloway County Transit System, with the Dispatcher of the Year Award.

## **Volunteer of the Year**



Shirley Lewis, Cumberland Valley ADD, presents Frank Eilers, Senior Services of Northern Kentucky, with the Volunteer of the Year Award.

## **Driver of the Year**



Barbara Chaney, Senior Services of Northern Kentucky, presents Elizabeth Hicks with the Driver of the Year Award.

## **First Place KPTA Rodeo Participant**



Sue Jeffers, BUS, presents Elizabeth Hicks, American Red Cross Louisville-WHEELS, with a first place trophy in the KPTA Transit Rodeo.

## **Second Place KPTA Rodeo Participant**



Pete King, RTEC, with his second place trophy in the KPTA Transit Rodeo.

## **Third Place KPTA Rodeo Participant**



Valerie Hurst, Daniel Boone Development Council, with her third place trophy in the KPTA Transit Rodeo.

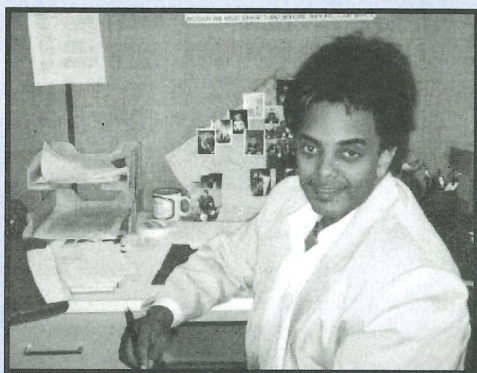


## Sykes Hired as New Graphic Artist for KyTC

John Sykes becomes the newest employee at the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Division of Multimodal Programs the first of May. His job duties include graphic design and technical support. Since he began his position he has been responsible for producing transportation maps, brochures and certificates for the KPTA Conference.

Sykes was raised in Frankfort and then moved to Ohio. He graduated from Columbus College of Arts and Design.

He also attended Ivy Tech in Indiana to become more familiar with computer graphic programs.



He learned several computer programs including: Quark, Photo Shop and Illustrator so he is very well rounded in graphic programs.

He began working with Kentucky State Government as a state construction inspector before taking his current position.

Sykes said he loves his job tremendously because it is fun. He also, said every day there are new and challenging things to tackle.

He not only is a graphic artist, but a very talented portrait artist. Sykes does a lot of free-lance work for individuals and companies. Another business he is involved in is running a sound board for bands and expos.

## Maintenance Team Competes at International Roadeo in Nashville

On August 22-24, the Maintenance Team of Paul Hadorn, Ron Morrison and Dwight Roberts competed in the 10th Annual APTA International Maintenance Roadeo. The TANK team competed against 47 other transit properties.

The competition consisted of the following events: a Driving Obstacle Course, Vehicle Inspection, Detroit Diesel/Allison Power Train, Cummins/Voith Power Train, and Air Brake Board Competition.

The TANK team placed 16th overall.

The Roadeo was won by Philadelphia, and Baltimore placed second.

In individual events such as the Vehicle Inspection, TANK finished with high scores.

In 1996, the same team placed 11th overall.

We would like to congratulate them on a great job and thank them for representing TANK in such a positive manner. This was the last Maintenance Roadeo; in 1998 the Operator and Maintenance Roadeo's will be held together in New York City.

## Hicks wins Roadeo..... *Continued from Page 1*

Tucker (Senior Service of Northern Kentucky), Pete King and Alecia Mobley (Rural Transportation Enterprises Coordinated, Inc.), Elizabeth Hicks and William Gibson (ARC Louisville-WHEELS).

The drivers began the morning with a written exam at the Galt House in Louisville. After the exam the drivers and judges boarded a TARC bus and headed for Bashford Manor Mall parking lot to begin the road portion of the Roadeo.

The drivers drew numbers to see who would begin the course first. Dave Beandin was the lucky participant to begin the competition.

The course included 11 different events including: Forward Offset Street, Serpentine, Right Turn, Left Turn, Right Hand Reverse, Left Hand Reverse, Passenger Stop, Right Tire Clearance, Diminishing Clearance, Judgement Stop and Smoothness of Operation. The object of the course is to drive through cones without touching any part of the cone. This included turning, pulling up and backing up without making a transmission shift into reverse that is not required.

All drivers and judges received a special 1997 Roadeo T-shirt and all drivers received a certificate of recognition.

Sue Jeffers, BUS, was the chairperson of the KPTA Roadeo.

**KPTA Meeting**  
**November 18 -- 12:00 noon**  
**TARC in Louisville**



## KyTC and Maysville Transit Team Captures Golf Tournament

The team of Jerry Ross, Sherrill Smith, Rommie Griffey and Ray Young were the winners of the 1997 KPTA/ITA Golf Tournament at Covered Bridge Golf Course in Sellersburg, Indiana on September 9.

The winning team finished the 18-hole golf course with an 11 under par score of 61. Two different teams shot a nine under par to finish second and third respectively. These teams consisted of (Allen Wells, Dave Hudgins, Huston Smith and Russell Terry) and (Lon Moreland, Scott Heatt, Pat Lock and Lee Huston).

The first and second place team members received a trophy and a gift certificate. Other prize winners included: Longest Drive on hole #9 (Russell Terry), Closest to Pin #8 (Ray Young), Closest to Pin #17 (Kent McDaniel), Closest to Line on #6 (Robert Perkins) and Longest Putt on #18 (Henry Maley).

Bob Busch, CATS, and Gary Kitchen, Paducah Transit Authority were co-chairs of the event. Mark Davis, Purchase ADD, and Pam Shepherd, FTSB, assisted at the tournament.



*Ray Young, left, and Jerry Ross, right, are shown with their first place winning trophies from the golf tournament. Beecher Hudson and Bob Busch are in the back.*

## New Tarc Trolley Hop to Serve Downtown, Frankfort Avenue and Bardstown Road

On August 30 and continuing for nine consecutive Saturdays through October 25, the clanging bells of TARC Trolleys will be heard along Bardstown Road, Frankfort Avenue, and Downtown Louisville as local residents, convention goers, and out-of-town visitors visit restaurants, art galleries, museums, and unique shops found along Louisville's most eclectic corridors.

Three trolley routes, all connecting at Lexington Rd. and Baxter (across from the Brewery), will run from 10 a.m. to Midnight. Trolley drivers will sell a \$3.00 all-day pass good for unlimited Trolley Hop rides, or customers can purchase a single ride for \$1.00; 1/2 price fares will be available for students, senior citizens, and people with disabilities with TARC I.D. cards. The Frankfort Avenue and Bardstown Road routes will operate every 20 minutes; the Downtown route will run every 40 minutes.

The Trolley Hop is funded in part by Louisville Gas & Electric Company and by more than two dozen businesses/attractions along the route. "This unique partnership shows that many diverse interests are committed to enhancing the quality of life in Louisville. The Trolley Hop will facilitate increased economic activity in a fun way that doesn't add to air pollution or traffic congestion," says TARC Executive Director, J. Barry Barker.

This nine-week Trolley Hop market test will be used to gauge ridership interest in this type of service. If successful, and additional sponsorship interest is generated, the Trolley Hop, in a similar or altered form, may run again during 1998.

### **Kentucky Rural Transit Assistance Program Committee Members**

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Manager  
RTAP Chairman

Vickie Bourne  
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Kentucky RTAP Coordinator

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## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Again, another great transit conference has come to a close. For the KPTA Conference Committee, I would like to express our appreciation to everyone who donated door prizes and resource materials that helped add excitement to an educational conference. The door prizes were absolutely extravagant and the resource table was generously stocked with tokens and information from various transit systems.

We appreciate everyone's help with the resource table and extend a special thanks to Myra Rutherford Immings, Pam Shepherd and Janice Vanzant for their efforts in keeping the table supplied with materials during the KPTA/ITA Conference in Louisville.

Sincerely,  
Shirley Cummins  
Conference Door Prizes and Resource Table

## Thought for the Day

"Sir, what is the secret of your success?"

A reporter asked a bank president.

"Two words."

"And, sir, what are they?"

"Right decisions."

"And how do you make the right decisions?"

"One word."

"And, sir, what is it?"

"Experience."

"And how do you get experience?"

"Two words."

"And, sir, what are they?"

"Wrong decisions."

The KPTA newsletter is published 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 Multimodal Programs and Rural Transit Assistance Program. Any comments or suggestions should be addressed to Pam Shepherd, FTSB, 1460 Newtown Rd., Suite J, Lexington, KY 40511.



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