

Virginia Regional Transit NEWS AND VIEWS

Second Quarter 2007

5th Annual Bowl-a-Thon March 24, 2007

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CEO Mark McGregor showing off his form at last years Bowl-a-Thon

Virginia Regional Transit will be host its 5th Annual Bowl-a-Thon Saturday March 24, 2007 at Village Lanes in Leesburg, Virginia. This family friendly fundraiser is one of two fundraising events held every year. The proceeds from this event are used directly to help provide community transportation. All employees are encouraged to participate. All employees who participate in this company function will receive points towards the Road to Rewards Program. A special prize is being offered to the employee who raises the most amount of money, as well as a prize being offered to the employee who brings the most number of bowlers! Each bowler must have a donation of at least \$20 to be able to bowl. The bowl-a-thon includes 3 games, a drink, a hamburger or hot dog, and french-fries. There will be door prizes, 50/50 raffles, and lots of

fun to be had! Please see Kim Myers if you are interested in participating in this very fun event!

Virginia Regional Transit had a special visit from Ms. Wheelchair America!

On February 10, 2007 we were fortunate to have with Ms. Maryland Wheelchair and Ms. USA Wheelchair 2005 with us, Ms. Juliette Rizzo. Her presentation reflected on her life experiences and how as ambassadors we could carry out a mission of compassion, understanding and help those who are mobility challenged. Her resume is extensive and includes television appearances, talk shows, State and National appearances. The following are excerpts from a recent e-mail she sent to the office. They reflect her opinion of our company. "As I traveled around the country as Ms. Wheelchair America, my platform was about empowering people to allow those with disabili-

ties to participate in and integrate into their communities. To do this takes courage, shared vision and champions for inclusion. I found those champions in you...in the staff, drivers, dispatchers, etc., at your meeting. I also found both hospitality and compassion. In the last three years, I have met with so many organizations and attended so many events across the United States, but many times I find organizations that do not practice what they preach. You do!"...Juliette Rizzo,



February, 2007.

May her words inspire you all to continue to do an amazing job, and to remember that everyday you all truly touch peoples lives.

What's Happening?

New Buses are arriving!

Virginia Regional Transit will be accepting 18 buses over the next 2-3 months. 5 buses have already been delivered to the Purcellville facility. These buses will be replacing some of the older buses in the fleet and will be distributed throughout the service areas. All buses are featuring Virginia Regional Transit's new color scheme and graphics that were designed by GAM printers in Sterling, Virginia. The total cost for the new buses comes to over 1 million dollars and were purchased with Federal, State, and Local Grants. Approximately \$800,000 came from Federal, \$130,000 coming from the State, and \$70,000 coming from local contribution. All buses in Loudoun County are being equipped with luminator signs which will help identify the routes.



Two New Buses already on Leesburg Fixed Routes

New Website Developing

Currently the Virginia Regional Transit website is under lots of renovation. Due to our ever growing ridership it has become necessary to update the website to make it more accurate and more user friendly. Some of the changes will include a great new design done by GAM printers, new schedule and route designs, lots of pictures, and much more. This exciting event is just one more way Virginia Regional Transit is improving itself to better take care of our riders and improve community awareness.

Surplus Computer Sale - April 14, 2007

The company has three complete sets of computer hardware (CPU, Monitor, keyboard, mouse), along with several individual CPUs, available for sale to the company employees. Silent bids will be accepted. Minimum bids and hardware specifications will be announced at the training meeting.

West Central District

News From West Central

In February, all Transit Managers completed an intensive three week training course in Frederick, Maryland sponsored by Transit Score. West Central's Transit Manager, Mike Barnes, is now a certified transit instructor qualified to teach system safety, defensive driving, passenger assistance and ADA sensitivity, customer service, emergency egress, and wheelchair securement and lift operations. The Culpeper Public Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC) is going strong and is avidly working on completing the new

Culpeper Connector brochures. New Trolley Stop signs have been installed along the new route in Culpeper, and ridership continues to be solid. The PTAC was hosted by Virginia Regional Transit for a visit to the Purcellville facility to get a precursor to what the Culpeper facility will be like. The group had an excellent trip from Culpeper on a Virginia Regional Transit bus driven by none other than Transit Manager, Mike Barnes. The driver was actually complemented on the ride when one of the

PTAC members stated that not one pothole was missed!

What about the New Facility?

West Central is pleased to announce that the new multi-modal transit facility in Culpeper is taking shape and that visible steel skeleton of a building is now visible. If the weather cooperates and if a few more kinks can be resolved, we should be moving to the new facility in late summer or early fall of this year

Mountain District

New to the Mountain's Team!

The mountain system has recently hired a new driver, Mark Alt. Mark comes to Virginia Regional Transit from West Virginia Potomac Transit. Mark proved to be a valuable driver to West Virginia by winning first place and second place at past West Virginia State Para Transit Rodeo's. Mark quickly learned the



Staunton Demand Service and has been doing a really great job thus far! Keep up the great work and Welcome Aboard!

Possibilities are Endless with Mountain!

Transit Manager John Maher has currently set up numerous community meetings. Stuart Hall School, a private 4 year Episcopal school, has expressed interest in school bus transportation starting in the Fall. A meeting has also been set up with the new Luray Town Manager about a possible new Trolley Service.

Special Congratulations

Mountain Driver, Mickey Conner and his wife Becky recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary! They celebrated with a four day honeymoon weekend. Congrats!

Transit Manager Continuing to Train

Mountain's Transit Manager, John Maher, is now a certified transit instructor qualified to teach system safety, defensive driving, passenger assistance and ADA sensitivity, customer service, emergency egress, and wheelchair securement and lift operations.

Purcellville

New Stop for the 7 on 7

Virginia Regional Transit has recently added a new stop to the 7 to 7 on 7. The bus now stops at the Northern Virginia Community College Sterling Campus. Previously Virginia Regional Transit buses would drop students off on Potomac View forcing them to walk nearly half a mile across a field to get to class. After the changes they are now being dropped off right out front of the main campus building. This decreases the students walk and increases the safety of these individuals. The new stop has been very well received.

More Loudoun changes

All routes are continuing to grow daily in Purcellville. In order to accommodate this large growth the Purcellville office is hiring new drivers to run the routes. Recently a reverse commute route has been started from AOL to Shaw Rd for the County. A second bus was also added on the Sterling Country-side route due to increased use of this service.

Please Welcome Stacy Webster to the Team

A new accountant, Stacy Webster, started March 5, 2007, as Virginia Regional Transits new accountant. She

comes to us with prior accounting experience. Stacy has been married for 10 years and has two children. She was previously in the United States Air Force where she specialized in Industrial Technology. Welcome Aboard!

Regional Manager Completes Training

Along with other transit managers, Regional Manager, Greg McGowan, completed training that now makes him a certified transit instructor. In order to complete this certification Greg had to take a 3 week long class, pass tests, and give a 10 min presentation. Congrats!

Piedmont District

Piedmont Working Hard

Piedmont Area Transit has finalized their brochures and will be handing them out shortly. The brochures turned out very

nice and have a great design. The Town of Blackstone has finished putting up bus signs in Cumberland, Buckingham, and Prince Edward Counties. PAT is currently working hard with VDOT to install bus signs put up in Amelia County. The

Piedmont Area Transit also welcomes two new drivers, Charles Wallace, and Bryan Keyton. Virginia Regional Transit is happy to have them as part of the team. PAT is continuing to grow and do very well.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Employee of the Month

By now, everyone has heard the name Jennifer Grooms. She is a very known and well liked employee of Virginia Regional Transit. Due to Jennifer's great work, she has been named the Employee of the Month for the month of January. Jennifer has on countless occasions risen to the challenge and has demonstrated to the general public her experience and professionalism which have earned her high remarks from contracted vendors such as George Washington University. Jennifer was specifically chosen as the first company wide Employee of the Month due to an event which occurred on January 27th 2007. The company had been requested to

participate and provide a trolley for an event for a major supporter. Unfortunately the event did not go as planned and Jennifer was contacted to provide driver assistance for this emergency situation. Like so many situations, Jennifer responded without any delay and basically took the matter under her control. As with most plans, when she arrived at the facility, her equipment would not work, calmly she coordinated exchanging pieces of equipment with another driver and had the bus in place only five minutes late. Following her trip, she once again, returned the piece of equipment and returned to the office. With her efforts, we not only maintained our scheduled street service but in a very tight schedule of times, she coordinated the event, delivered our promised service and kept everyone happy. Jennifer truly

followed the mission and vision of Virginia Regional Transit. Congratulations to Jennifer Groom on becoming the Employee of the Month!

New To Virginia Regional Transit

West Central
Larry Hurlock
Constance Williams

Loudoun County
Glenn Hosby
Greg Madden
Toni Spahr
Stuart Lewis
David Heath
Luther Njwe-Ube
Mary Ann Devlin

Mountain
Henry Alt

Piedmont District
Charles Wallace
Norman Bryan Kayton

It's Coming! State Rodeo is Approaching

The Community Transportation Association of Virginia (CTAV) will be holding their annual State Rodeo on April 28, 2007. The competition will be held in South Hill Virginia which is South of Richmond by the North Carolina border. Virginia Regional Transit is allowed three body on chassis drivers and three van drivers. CAT's will also be participating in this competition and will be sending James Conner, Richard Cooper, and William O'Connell to compete in Body On Chassis, William Garret, and Linwood Wilkes to represent Van Drivers. Virginia Regional Transit is sending Charlie Starliper from Loudoun County, Lael (Tiny) Alston from Loudoun County, and David Lanham from West Central to represent the company in body on chassis competition. Barbara Bush from Loudoun County, Cindy Ray from Loudoun County, and Russell Booker from West Central will be representing Virginia Regional Transit in the Van competition. The company will be taking numerous judges as well. Good Luck to all drivers!





Your Access to Mobility

"Take a Ride on us!"

Driving Safety Tips

- Be Careful of Black Ice
 - Watch your speed!
- Give driving your FULL attention!
- Do NOT use Cell phone while driving



16,847 more riders in December 06 and January 07 than December 05 and January 06!

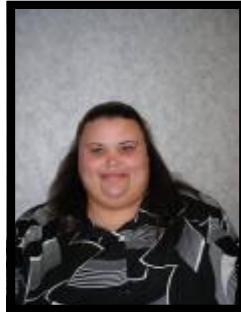
December and January Totals:

	<u>2005</u>	vs.	<u>2006</u>
Purcellville District:	42,175		54,128
West Central District:	21,248		19,891
Mountain District:	15,736		21,987
Totals:	79,159		96,006



Spotlight on Success

As a new feature to the quarterly Newsletter, one individual from the Virginia Regional Transit staff will be interviewed and featured in the Newsletter.



This quarter's featured employee is non other than Mrs. Jennifer Grooms! Jennifer is a true asset to Virginia Regional Transit. Jennifer started working for Virginia Regional Transit four years ago in 2003. When she came on board she was completely new to the transit industry. Jennifer excelled at all aspects of her job and quickly began to prove how important she was to Virginia Regional Transit. Jennifer had previously worked for a nursing home for five years, which provided experience in helping

to assist our elderly passengers. Due to her proven skills and her kindness to all passengers Jennifer was asked to become a Trainer in 2005. Jennifer continued to show great work ethic and continued to excel in her dual role job, and was promoted in 2007 to become the new Operations Supervisor for Purcellville. Some of her duties include evaluations, schedules, customer complaints, and route maintenance. Jennifer regularly rides routes to insure that they are on time and that the route itself is working well. Personally Jennifer got married last year in May and will be soon celebrating her one year anniversary! Jennifer is a great asset to Virginia Regional Transit. She has been an amazing driver, one of the best trainers, and is now stepping up to the challenge of her new position. For all of these reasons, plus many more, Jennifer Groom has been selected as this quarters *Spotlight on Success!* Keep up the great work, and we will all continue to expect greatness from you!



Celebrate Birthdays

Happy Birthday wishes go out to all employees born in the months of July, August, September, and October as well as upcoming months November and December! Happy Birthday to you all!

Month	Birthdays
January	1 Gamil Mosleh 6 Linda G. Sutler 14 Robert T. Anson 15 Yadwinder Singh 16 Jerome H. Jones 16 Jacqueline A. Swofford 17 Wayne S. Rankin
February	3 Mary A. Micelli 5 Tequila M. Jackson 5 Nancy A. Thompson 12 Mary Ann Devlin 12 Robert E. Jackson 14 Sarah Utterback 16 Calvin A. Dade 21 Samuel L. Koons 28 Barbara J. Bush
March	2 Heinz G. Laude 3 Norman Kayton 5 Sukhdeep Singh 11 Robert Charnley Jr. 16 Edward L. Eustler 16 John W. Matthews Jr.
April	1 Yvonne F. Lucas 3 Joan E. Runion 7 Charles R. Starliper 8 Herbert M. Cockrell 15 Gary Puck 16 Gregory W McGowan 17 Marlin D. Washington 21 Linwood G. Wilkes 28 Kassaye W. Demena 30 Felicia Finneran
May	1 James M. Conner 16 John S. Walker 19 Darlene B. Hiner 22 Maria M. Baltuano-Valle 22 Kimberly A. Myers 24 John P. Maher 26 William E. O'Connell 26 Fred D. Williams 27 Clarence D. Wilkins
June	1 Charles Wallace 10 Douglas Saturday 14 Gregory Madden 21 Billy Good 22 Charles Brehm 24 Robert R. Kennedy
	18 William R. Coram 19 Sylvia A. Trammel 21 Charles H. Gibson 23 Cindy J. Ray 24 Sharon K. Kennedy 24 Jack C. Loesch 24 Julia E. Mitchell