



EXPRESS!

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What's Our Legacy Going to Be?



J. Roger Morton
President and General Manager

person, commuting alone by car, who switches a 20-mile round trip commute to TheBus, can reduce his or her annual CO2 emissions by 4,800 pounds per year, equal to a 10% reduction in all greenhouse gases produced by a typical two-adult, two-car household. By eliminating one car and taking public transportation instead of driving, a savings of up to 30% of carbon dioxide emissions can be realized. Will we be ready to take up the challenge of helping to preserve our planet for future generations?

The Oxford English Dictionary defines legacy as “something handed down by a predecessor”. In recent years, the idea of a legacy has become popular. Experts ask us what will be the legacy of the President, or the Governor or the Mayor or any other leader who has an opportunity to make a difference. In all cases, history will judge exactly what kind of legacy our leaders will leave us.

But I think the idea of legacy can be applied to all of us and to our company. What will Oahu Transit's Legacy be?

Like many of you, I'm proud that I've devoted my career to develop better public transit for the citizens of Hawaii. Good transit is a green industry and good for the environment. Public transportation helps our country conserve energy and reduce greenhouse gases. A single

Now, more than anytime in my career, I believe our mission is all the more important. Last year, Americans took more than 10.3 billion transit trips – the highest number in over fifty years. In Honolulu, our ridership has fully recovered from the strike five years ago. This year, we will have our best ridership in more than a decade. But we have to be ready to do more. Congestion levels have increased to all-day events and there is little doubt that \$4.00 per gallon gas is going to make a difference in many people's lives. Our ridership is going to rise. Will we be ready?

Within ten years, the City is poised to open a new high-capacity rail system. That will be good for our community and good for us here at TheBus and TheHandi-Van.

Story continued on page 3

Operator of the Quarter



Operator of the Quarter
Merrill Miyasaki has been with OTS for thirty-three plus years. More about Merrill on page 9 of Express!

Movin' On Up

Adam S. Fraga, Central Radio Controller, was promoted on 12/1/07. Adam was previously a Bus Operator and has been with OTS, Inc. since 10/28/00.



Eric A. Nakashima, Road Supervisor, was promoted on 12/16/07. Eric was previously a Bus Operator and has been with OTS, Inc. since 8/5/00.



Irwin A. W. Wong, Road Supervisor, was promoted on 12/16/07. Irwin was previously a Bus Operator and has been with OTS since 3/23/91.



John P. Bega, First Class Trades Person, was promoted on 1/1/08. John was previously a Utility Worker and has been with OTS since 9/5/00.



Chris S. Hirakawa, Maintenance Foreman, was promoted on 3/1/08. Chris was previously a HEM - Electrician and has been with OTS, Inc. since 7/1/88.



Donald R. Tokumori, Assistant Superintendent, Maintenance - Kalihi Division, was promoted on 3/1/08. Donald was previously a Maintenance Foreman and has been with OTS, Inc. since 1/15/79.



Sandra Morishige, Lead Maintenance Clerk, was promoted on 3/16/08. Sandra was previously a Maintenance Clerk II and has been with OTS since 4/1/86.



Glenn M. Santiago, Lead Mechanic, Running Repair, was promoted on 4/1/08. Glenn was previously a HEM - Running Repair and has been with OTS since 3/13/95.



What's Our Legacy Going to Be?

Story continued from Cover

Some of our routes will be modified to better integrate with the rail system, but our mission will remain the same. We need to provide excellent public transportation to the people of Hawaii. Will we be ready?

The next decade will be crucial for our country and crucial for us at TheBus. We work for a great company. I call on all employees to join me in making our legacy one that we can all be proud of.

J. Roger Morton



Joelle F. P. Hussey, (photo above, left) Schedule & Assignment Tech II, was promoted on 1/16/08. Joelle was previously a Schedule & Assignment Tech I and has been with OTS, Inc. since 5/1/97.

Shari-Ann M. S. Isobe, (photo above, right) Schedule & Assignment Tech III, was promoted on 1/16/08. Shari was previously a Schedule & Assignment Tech II and has been with OTS, Inc. since 10/1/87.

Photo Contest Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the OTS Bus Photo Contest. An independent panel of artistic professionals (no OTS employees) selected the winning entries. Entries were to depict TheBus and TheHandi-Van serving the community with our island beauty as a backdrop. All winners have received cash prizes and will have their photos displayed at the OTS facilities and for a limited engagement at Honolulu Hale. Mahalo to all who participated!

Photo Right: **First Place Photo by Information Clerk Coordinator Jodi "Tita" Kim.**



Photo Above: **Second Place Photo by Transportation Clerk II Rudi Ocampo.**



Photo Above: **Third Place Photo by HEM - Transmission Shop Jeff Mitsuda.**



Photo Above: **Fourth Place Photo by Bus Operator Bob Krause.**



Photo Above: **Fifth Place Photo by Workers Compensation Technician Joni Robinson.**

Stuff TheBus at Honolulu Hale

First Row (left to right): **Roger Morton**, President and General Manager, Oahu Transit Services, Inc.;
Anthony Guerrero, OTS Board Chairman;
Jeffery J. Coelho, Director of Customer Service;
Linda Chu Takayama, Chair, Hawaii Foodbank;
Sheri Rolf, Food Drive Chair;
Mayor Mufi Hannemann;
Jay Ishibashi, Special Assistant - Mayor's Office;
Wayne Hashiro, Managing Director- City & County of Honolulu.



In Memory of . . .

Charles N. Kahalehau passed away on September 21, 2007. Mr. Kahalehau was employed with MTL, Inc., on September 17, 1973 as a Bus Operator in the Transportation Department and had 17 years of service.

Josephine F. G. Lum passed away on December 16, 2007. Mrs. Lum was employed with OTS, Inc. on May 1, 1980, as a Bus Pass Clerk in the Customer Service Department, and retired from OTS, Inc., on September 1, 1996, after more than 16 years of service.

Clyde K. Sakai passed away on December 22, 2007. Mr. Sakai was employed by MTL, Inc., on June 24, 1985 as a Foreman in the Maintenance Department, and retired from OTS, Inc., on August 1, 2005, after more than 20 years of service.

George G. Balino passed away on January 9, 2008. Mr. Balino was employed with MTL, Inc., on June 6, 1974, as a Bus Operator in the Transportation Department. He retired from OTS, Inc., as an Assistant Superintendent for the Kalihi-Palama Transportation Division on April 1, 2007, after 33 years of service.

Edward M. Sniffen Jr. passed away on January 13, 2008. Mr. Sniffen was employed with HRT, Co. Ltd., on August 30, 1960 as a Bus Operator in the Transportation Department. At the time of his passing he was the Chief Supervisor for the Road Supervision Section in the Transportation Department with more than 47 years of service.

Henry H. Nakashima passed away on January 24, 2008. Mr. Nakashima was employed with HRT Co., Ltd., on June 16, 1947, as a Bus Operator in the Transportation Department, and retired from MTL, Inc., as a Dispatching Supervisor, on May 1, 1988 after more than 40 years of service.

James W. Stein passed away on January 27, 2008. Mr. Stein was employed with OTS, Inc., on July 28, 1987 as a Bus Operator in the Transportation Department with 20 years of service.

Ritchie K. Hanabusa passed away on February 1, 2008. Mr. Hanabusa was employed with OTS, Inc., on March 1, 2002 as a Property Manager in the Finance Department with 5 years of service.

Harry H. K. Kolo Jr. passed away on April 9, 2008. Mr. Kolo was employed with OTS, Inc., on May 21, 1993 as a Paratransit Operator in the Paratransit Services Division. At the time of his passing he was Paratransit Dispatcher in the Paratransit Services Division with more than 14 years of service.



Photo Right: (top to bottom) **Charles N. Kahalehau, Josephine F. G. Lum, Clyde K. Sakai, George G. Balino, Edward M. Sniffen Jr., Henry H. Nakashima, James W. Stein, Ritchie Hanabusa, Harry H. K. Kolo Jr.**

Rudi Ocampo Honored by Olelo Media Center

Rudi Ocampo received two awards from Olelo Media Center held at UH Hawaiian Studies Center on February 23, 2008. Rudi received the Video Recognition for Video Excellence award for producing "Honolulu Festival 2007" and the Spirit of Volunteerism Mapunapuna Branch award.



Photo Above: **Rudi Ocampo (with award) and fellow Olelo workers and volunteers at the Mapunapuna Branch.**



Photo Right: **Rudi Ocampo with his Video Recognition for Video Excellence award for producing "Honolulu Festival 2007."**

Eugene Perreira Joins The Blood Bank of Hawaii Century Club



Twenty-five years ago, Bus Operator Eugene Perreira, along with other bus employees started a Blood Bank club. One hundred pints later, Eugene joined the elite Century Club at The Blood Bank of Hawaii. Eugene is pictured with Senior Vice President and Director of Operations Kenneth Hong. "This was my way of silently giving back to the community."

Mahalo for all you do Eugene!

Bus Operator Class 174 Graduated December 1, 2007



First Row (left to right): **Norman Wong Jr., Debbie Steverson, Shane Hoomanawanui, Abdel Halim Abu Rabie, Stephen Marchan, Mark Ludwig.** Second Row (left to right): **Lynette Cazimero, Peter Hoshino, Thomas Kirby, Anthony Peterson, Brian Colon, Drake Colon, Saifoloi Saifoloi, Pitone Leao, James Moore.** Third Row (left to right): **Charles McDowell, Deanna Lincoln, Josielyn Gruspe, Kaililauloa Garcia, Fogavai Savea, William Olpendo, Guiseppe Rivera, Thomas Anuhealii.**

Bus Operator Class 175 Graduated February 29, 2008



First Row (left to right): **Kanoa Kanahale, Bobby Crawford, Nikolao Sagapolutele, Arjay Tactacan, Roger Ramos, John Kido, Elmer Drew, Lionel Waiwaiole.** Second Row (left to right): **Adrianna Timson, Chronicloe Macapagal, Lynnmarie Glover, Dana Tim.**

TheBus Rodeo

Thursday, December 13, 2007 Pearl City Facility



TheBus Rodeo Winners Honored by Honolulu City Council.

Holiday Bash 2007 Paratransit Services



1st Place Operator Lincoln Alvarez
2nd Place Operator Keith Souza
3rd Place Operator Paul Fernandez

1st Place Maintenance Team
 Charles Lee Homer Nagaki Burke Moriguchi

Holiday Bash 2007

Kalihi



Pearl City



Bus Operators of the Month

KALIHI DIVISION

January 2008

1. Danilo Baron
2. Willis Peahi
3. Darrell Yago

February 2008

1. Marc Behic
2. Linda Kauhini
3. Junko Shimokawa

March 2008

1. Samuel Dela Cruz
2. David Paakaula
3. Alan Arakaki

PEARL CITY DIVISION

January 2008

1. Amado Ballesteros
2. Blaise Bruhn
3. George Hilo

February 2008

1. Francis Fukuda Jr.
2. John Ishol
3. Veralene Kekaula

March 2008

1. Noah Kalama III
2. Ernesto Lozano
3. Solomon Naleieha

Certificate of Merit

Perfect Attendance
for 2007

Kalihi Division

Ferdinan S. Agasid
Russell S. Akamine
Danilo E. Baron
Howard M. Barona
Renato C. Cabanero
Terry G. Caberto
Lloyd A. Cantere
Rodney A. Cardenas
Yung Fu Chang
Darryl C. Choy
Samuel J. De La Cruz
Myron W. Fernandez
Paul N. Fernandez
August K. Fiesta
Derek Y. Hironaka
Aaron Iramina
Samuel Johnson-Espinosa
David K. Kasaoka
Daniel H. Katsura
Wayne M. Kawamura, Jr.
Ronald Y. Kiyota
Paulette L. Lane
Christopher C. Lee
Michael K. Mamac
Marino L. Manipon
Merrill T. Miyasaki
Roy S. Nakagawa
Edward S. Nakamura
Lenny A. Ota
David Paakaula, Jr.
Thomas W. Rollman
Dan C. Saludes
William F. Stowers
Charles B. Sullivan
David J. Tuffin
Vance L. Vidinha

Retiree Corner

Name	Position	Date Retired	Yrs. of Service
John C. Gouveia	Service Attendent	Nov 2007	16
Gary Y. Isara	HEM - Running Repair	Dec 2007	32
Bert H. Arakawa	Central Radio Controller	Jan 2008	34 1/2
Helene N. Baker	Bus Operator	Jan 2008	27 1/2
Librada M. Kepaa	Paratransit Operator	Jan 2008	15
Bernard K. Nunies	Dispatcher	Jan 2008	33 1/2
Barbara H. Simao	Paratransit Operator	Jan 2008	15
Glenn C Cordeiro	Bus Operator	Apr 2008	13
Fanny K. Hopeau	Bus Operator	Apr 2008	29
Randall M. Y. Jay	Bus Operator	Apr 2008	28
Nelson C. Mashino	Assist. Superintendent Maintenance - Kailihi Div.	Apr 2008	31
Carl G. Matsuda	HEM - Electrician	Apr 2008	24 1/2
Margo S Mortensen	Information Clerk II	Apr 2008	20
Richard H. Nishida	Bus Operator	Apr 2008	33
Florentino G. Paet	HEM - Running Repair	Apr 2008	15
Eugene A. Perreira	Bus Operator	Apr 2008	31 1/2
Daniel R. Sylva	Bus Operator	Apr 2008	33
Johnny Tahi	Service Attendent	Apr 2008	24
Buster Y. Toyama	Paratransit Operator	Apr 2008	14
Hayden Woodward	Bus Operator	Apr 2008	35
Norman K. Yoshida	Bus Operator	Apr 2008	31 1/2

Safety Awards

November

- Donald Chang
Daniel Sylva

Years

- 31
32

- Derrick Tanaka
Richard Wai
George Waikoloa

- 25
27
23

December

- Edward Akana
Terry Caberto
David Keaweehu
Pamela Self

- 21
22
26
28

February

- Dennis Meyer
Florence Mitsumura

- 30
21

March

- Ernest S. Busboso

- 25

January

- Myra Canianes

- 32

Pearl City Division

Eloy Birtodaso
Manuel Bumanglag
Rogelio Cajimat
Alfredo Decierodo Jr.
Elmer Ellecion
Francis Fukuda
Jessie Gaddy
Raymond Gandeza
Richard Kanoho
Nephi Kekaula
Veralene Kekaula
Bruce Kushima
Bryon Lee
Peter Nakata
Regan Nishimura
Herbert Oshiro
Michael Shimotsu
Michael Shindo
Roger Smith
Charles Tanabe
Fred Tauvela
Leti Tootoo
Rodney Theodore
Benjamin Valderama
Richard Wai

Operator of the Quarter



Merrill Miyasaki is currently number 28 in operator seniority at the Kalihi Facility, number 47 in operator seniority overall. He is also Operator of the Quarter.

After graduating from college, Merrill planned on being an Industrial Arts teacher, but in 1974, there was a surplus of teachers. Merrill held a variety of jobs, including driving a cab before he saw an ad in the paper that the bus company was looking for drivers.

Merrill applied, and was hired in October 1974. Class #39 included Guy Gamurot, Noah Kalama, Herbie Titcomb, Reuben Colleado and William Higa. It's 33-plus years later, and Merrill is still on the night shift, stating "It's more relaxing in the evenings."

Merrill has been a Sunset Beach resident since 1985, and bikes and runs in his spare time.

Merrill's advice to all operators is to "Listen and scope things out first. You don't learn anything by talking or jumping to conclusions."

Congratulations, Merrill!

New OTS 'Ohana

KATHERINE K. KAPANUI	Paratransit Reservationist	11/14/07
JOVEN F. SANTOS, JR.	HEM - Air Condition	11/16/07
PUAKALANI T. ALA	Service Attendant	11/28/07
ABDEL HALIM S. ABU RABIE	Bus Operator	12/01/07
THOMAS K. ANUHEALII	Bus Operator	12/01/07
LYNETTE P. CAZIMERO	Bus Operator	12/01/07
BRIAN E. COLON	Bus Operator	12/01/07
DRAKE HISAO COLON	Bus Operator	12/01/07
KAILILAULO K. GARCIA	Bus Operator	12/01/07
SHANE H. HOOMANAWANUI	Bus Operator	12/01/07
PETER T. HOSHINO	Bus Operator	12/01/07
THOMAS J. KIRBY	Bus Operator	12/01/07
PITONE S. LEO, JR.	Bus Operator	12/01/07
MARK T. LUDWIG	Bus Operator	12/01/07
STEPHEN MARCHAN	Bus Operator	12/01/07
CHARLES S. MCDOWELL	Bus Operator	12/01/07
JAMES A. MOORE	Bus Operator	12/01/07
WILLIAM L. R. OLPENDO	Bus Operator	12/01/07
ANTHONY K. PETERSON	Bus Operator	12/01/07
GUISEPPE G. RIVERA	Bus Operator	12/01/07
SAIFOLOI SAIFOLOI	Bus Operator	12/01/07
FOGAVAI T. SAVEA	Bus Operator	12/01/07
DEBBIE L. STEVERSON	Bus Operator	12/01/07
NORMAN G. WONG, JR.	Bus Operator	12/01/07
KRYSTELLE M. LEANO	Temp. Entry Clerk Typist	12/03/07
MCQUEEN F. MALUINA	Paratransit Fueler/Cleaner	01/22/08
ALO SALAUSA	Paratransit Reservationist	01/28/08
PAMELA K. MENZA	Entry Clerk Typist	02/01/08
RODRIGO C. SANTOS	Service Attendant	02/11/08
JEFFREY J. KENERY	HEM - Air Condition	02/11/08
BOBBY D. CRAWFORD	Bus Operator	03/01/08
ELMER K. DREW III	Bus Operator	03/01/08
LYNNMARIE K. GLOVER	Bus Operator	03/01/08
KANOA N. KANAHELE	Bus Operator	03/01/08
JON S. KIDO	Bus Operator	03/01/08
CHRONICOLE E. K. MACAPAGAL	Bus Operator	03/01/08
ROGER B. RAMOS	Bus Operator	03/01/08
NIKOLAO SAGAPOLUTELE	Bus Operator	03/01/08
ARJAY M. TACTACAN	Bus Operator	03/01/08
DANA N. TIM	Bus Operator	03/01/08
ADRIEANNA M. TIMSON	Bus Operator	03/01/08
LIONEL K. WAIWAIOLE, JR.	Bus Operator	03/01/08
GARY B. BARBADILLO	Paratransit Operator	03/01/08
TINA A. MERRITT	Paratransit Operator	03/01/08
KENNETH S.K. NG	Paratransit Operator	03/01/08
MAE ANN K. RODRIGUEZ	Paratransit Operator	03/01/08
SOE SAING	Paratransit Operator	03/01/08
STUART T. JAICTIN	HEM - Lube/Inspection	03/10/08
STELLA S. HOTTA	Entry Information Clerk	03/11/08
IKE K. MAKANANI	Entry Information Clerk	03/11/08
HOLLY J. VALDEZ	Entry Information Clerk	03/11/08
JANET K. NAKAMOTO	Entry Information Clerk	04/08/08

2008 - A Year of "New Beginnings" for OTS Paratransit

Patricia Nielsen
Vice President, Paratransit Services

Most of us have experienced, at one time or another, the excitement of moving into a new home. Some of us may have moved so many times that it's just no big deal or it's a pain in the neck.

No matter how you may feel about moving, the employees who work for TheHandi-Van have a sense of excitement in the air and new hope abounds...here's the latest scoop:

- New home – although our "move-in" date keeps moving, we know that with each passing day, it's getting closer. The latest news is sometime in May.
- New relationships – for the first time in eight years, we'll be together again, under one roof. This will open up many new opportunities for growth and unity, driven by the spirit of aloha.
- New radio/dispatch with GPS navigation system allowing us to visually know the van locations on the island, as well as the ability to communicate more effectively with our operators and, ultimately, better serve our customers.

It's an exciting time and never a dull moment in the transportation business.

I'll leave you with a quote to ponder from Mark Twain..."Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."



Photo Above: The "New Home" of Paratransit operations.



Photo Above: The new garage bays for the Paratransit Mechanics.



Paratransit Class 32 Graduated March 1, 2008

Bottom Row (left to right): Mae Ann Rodriguez, Tina Merritt.
Top Row (left to right): Gary Barbadillo, Soe Saing, Kenneth Ng.

Paratransit Awards for Perfect Attendance in 2007

One Year

Rueben Cezar
 Freddie Makinano
 James McDonald
 Roy Murakami
 Gary Nettles
 Russell Park
 Lisa Parker

Two Year

Demetrio Capulong
 Randall DeGuzman

Three Year

Loreto Macadaeg
 Andres Talaro

Paratransit Safety Awards

October

1st Yr. Award	Joseph Dela Cruz	Valray Jeremiah	Brenda Fitzsimmons	Freddie Makinano
2nd Yr. Award	Stephen Medeiros			
4th Yr. Award	Laurie Schipinski			

November

1st Yr. Award	Marshall Alvarado Leslie Llacuna	Chantel Quinores Michael Woodward	Earl Chung	Fred Uemura
2nd Yr. Award	Sasha Bush	Patsy Cullen		
3rd Yr. Award	Lucille Dunphy	Andres Sarmiento		
4th Yr. Award	Alexander Visarra			

December

1st Yr. Award	James Jeremiah	Domingo Perez		
2nd Yr. Award	Wendy Naile	Russell Wataoka	Sean Sojot	Kawe Williams
3rd Yr. Award	Jesse Kobylanski			
4th Yr. Award	Stanley Souza			
5th Yr. Award	Gordon Abbott Theresa Gomes John Steffens Darren Astrande Reginamae Martin Roman Villanueva	Randall De Guzman Nina Schneider Ramon Anagaran Charlene Lawelawe Alan Viernes Demetrio Capulong	Wendell Pinero Violet Ahia-Young Fetausi'ai Lose Tanielu Tyrell Norman Cabalo Joan Pere	Afaese Afaese Lavone Ikeda Andres Talaro Steven Bullock Andrew Miller

January

1st Yr. Award	Elvira Pacarro			
3rd Yr. Award	Jeffery Kwon			
4th Yr. Award	Rodney Alama			
5th Yr. Award	Rusty Alama Desiree Carlbom Joann McKay	Wayne Paakaula Carol Samski Mark Tanele	Saffery Brown Keolanui Kaina	Ariel Ponce Joselito Suga

February

1st Yr. Award	Irene Baker Rudy Cruz	Tricia Hardy Laverne Pitre	Glenn Bocoboc David Dieudonne	Warfe Pasicaran Francis Silva
2nd Yr. Award	Harry Kurihara Anna Miner	Ronald Miyashita Joseph Souza Jr.	Albert Maghamil	Gaylen Paio
3rd Yr. Award	Kory Gabriel			
5th Yr. Award	Kathleen Bajo	Darlene Kawelo	Rex De Jesus	Isaako Loa

41 Years in Transit

Some Random Thoughts.

Kenneth O. Stanley
Vice President,
Operational Planning and Marketing



I've always known that someday I would get to retire from a job that I have enjoyed all my adult life. When it comes time to turn in your punch, one wonders what has been the result of doing something you really enjoy. You hope that you've made things better.

I've had the opportunity to work at four different transit properties over the span of my career. Each presented new opportunities, challenges and rewards. I'd like to spend just a few minutes reminiscing about some of those things that stand out in my mind.

First, it's the people. I'll never forget Jack Woods of the Rose City Transit Company. He hired me to my first job in transit. I was too young at 21 to be a bus driver ("We don't usually hire younger than 24," he said), but he said I was smart and he knew I would do well. So he told me during my interview when the phone on his desk rang and another applicant told him he'd decided not to take the job and Jack needed someone to start training. I'll never forget old Mr. Cruzan. The number two man on the seniority list and the guy you had to convince you could drive to pass your training. He's the one who told me being a bus driver was more than keeping the bus between the lines – you needed to be a professional about how you dealt with people.

It was Rosie that first instilled in me the importance of delivering a quality product. Rose City was still a private company. They wanted all of the passengers they could get. Good customer service skills and being on time were their top priorities. Safety. It was everyone's job to make sure the service was delivered safely - everyday.

I'll never forget Audrey Adcock. She was the manager of scheduling when I first went into the Schedule Department. She taught me patience. Okay, so I never really got that, but it did help a lot to have her calm approach to whatever crisis that came our way. And when through the twists that life takes, a few years later I came back to be her boss, she taught me how to be gracious in either role.

Tom Mattoff. He taught me so many sound principles that make transit work, and the value of a sense of humor in getting through the messy process of making changes that affect people's lives in ways we can never imagine.

I hardly know where to start when I talk about Mr. James Cowen. I worked for him twice, first in Portland, then again in Honolulu. Mr. Cowen knew so much about transit. More importantly, he knew a lot about people and how to work with anyone to accomplish the task that needed to be done. He seemed to remember everything. He taught by making you think. He didn't always keep you from failing (unless there would be way too much mess to clean up) but he was always there to support the decisions you made and help you learn why sometimes there were better choices.

Moving to Honolulu was a dream come true. Of course, I'd fallen in love with the islands in 1969. It was great to be able to work for a system that carries a lot of people and has a lot of unique opportunities and challenges. It was great to be back with Mr. Cowen and then I got a real gem of a secretary in Melonie DeMello.

I think what I've enjoyed most about working in transit has been the opportunity to be involved with something that matters. I look back now at changes we made in Portland in the late 70's and early 80's that laid the foundation for the successes that are being enjoyed now. We made changes to the route network that are still the foundation for what is done today. Every time I see the ridership is up again at Tri-Met it makes me happy. When I visit Portland and see how the system is used today it is truly gratifying. People choose to ride transit because it works. It works because the system is formed and supported using basic principles that make it useful.

To avoid the risk of leaving someone out I am not going to go through the people here in Honolulu who have made a difference. But as you can tell, that's what matters to me. You all have a chance to make a difference in people's lives by doing what you do in the best way possible. Whether you turn the steering wheel or turn a wrench, answer a question or solve a problem, write a schedule or write a check, you can make a difference in the quality of life for people living in or visiting Paradise. Here's wishing you the best.

Aloha United Way Awards OTS, Inc.



Photo Above: **Roger Morton**, President and General Manager, Oahu Transit Services, Inc., accepts on behalf of OTS, Inc. the 2007 Spirit of Community Company of the Year Award Nominee plaque, for showing year-round commitment to Aloha United Way and our community with outstanding campaign results.

Red Lights

Jerome Preese
Vice President,
Transportation Operations

The motivation for this article came from an incident that happened to me the other day. I was approaching an intersection with the green light in my favor. I scanned the intersection and noticed a car approaching on the major cross street at a high rate of speed. I slowed down and it was a good thing that I did. The other car realized at the last minute that he had a red light, slammed on his brakes, and skidded into the intersection. He sheepishly put down his cell phone and reversed out of the intersection.

This incident motivated me to do some research on running red lights. First, I checked our unsafe vehicle operation complaints and found that running red light complaints are second only to unsafe merging complaints. Then, I went to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety web site and learned some interesting facts. Running red lights is the leading cause of urban crashes. A crash caused by a driver who runs a red light is more likely to result in serious injury or death. Sixty-three percent (63%) of all Americans will witness a red-light running incident more than once a week. Red-light running is often the result of aggressive driving and is completely preventable.

Reflecting upon this incident allows me to appreciate the defensive driving techniques taught in Commercial Driver License (CDL) training. Approach intersections with caution and survey the intersection for hazards such as pedestrians, cyclists or motorists about to enter the intersection. "Cover" your brake and be prepared to slow down and stop should the signal change to yellow or red. Traffic signals change in an instant, so never try to beat a traffic signal.

The Green Line

The Green Line is the Mass Transit System for the Marine Corps in Okinawa. The transit service is based out of Marine Corps Base Camp S.D. Butler. The OTS Management team was fortunate to meet and exchange operational information with The Green Line team headed by Mr. Tom Ramer.



Photo Above: **Mr. Nakamura and Mr. Ramer** present to **Jon Nouchi** on behalf of Oahu Transit Services, Inc., a certificate and plaque thanking OTS for support and kindness during their visit.



Photo Above: **Running red light complaints are second only to unsafe merging complaints. Red-light running is often the result of aggressive driving and is completely preventable.**

Technology Corner

Jon Nouchi

Service Development Manager

The Service Development and Service Evaluation teams have a new tool in creating appropriate schedules based on actual running time and loads. We've dubbed this system STARS, which stands for Statistical Transit Analysis Reporting Software.

The STARS system takes bus location data from the TransitMaster system and measures the actual performance of each bus against its location and schedule. It also has the ability to analyze automatic passenger counter (APC) data and tell us how many people got on or off at a given stop. STARS is a highly complex system; we are only beginning to scratch the surface as to what we can do with this wealth of new data. One thing we do know for certain: the data produced and reported from STARS will have a noticeably positive impact on TheBus schedules and running times. We want to use this data to improve the reliability of TheBus service and therefore improve the overall quality of bus transit in Honolulu.

Bus operators often ask how the Scheduling department determines route running times between timepoints. Our Schedule Technicians combine their knowledge of road, traffic, and load conditions with bus operator feedback to design practical running times. While this may seem like an easy, cut-and-dry exercise, consider this: traffic conditions in Honolulu are very erratic. The H-1 Freeway is a prime example. If you drive the H-1 between the Airport and Downtown Honolulu for the next five weekdays leaving at exactly the same time,

chances are that you will experience a different situation every day. It is difficult, if not impossible, to determine the exact travel time it takes between the Airport and Downtown that will apply to every day's traffic conditions.

Therein lies the problem in determining appropriate running times. If too much time is given between timepoints drivers must uncomfortably drag the line to avoid running hot on their schedule and passengers become frustrated with the slow travel speeds. Too little running time will result in late buses, uneven loads, and unreliable schedule adherence.

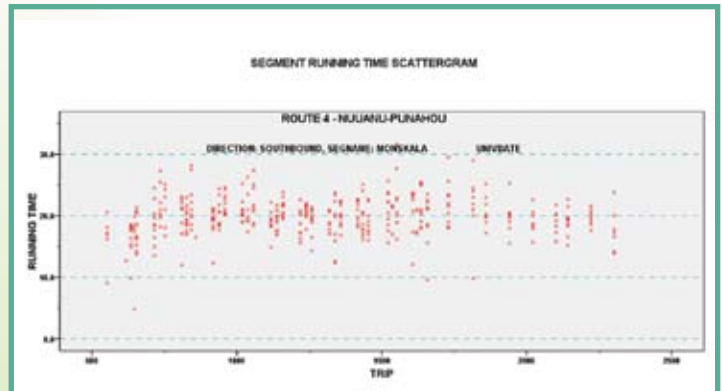


Photo Above: **Graph shows the wide variety of travel times bus operators need to get from Waikiki to University.**

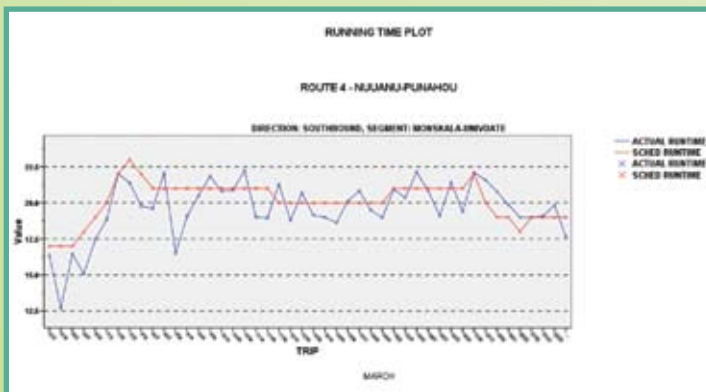


Photo Above: **Graph shows average running time versus scheduled running time from Waikiki to University on route 4.**

Bus operators say that a well-tuned schedule is an pleasure to drive; if the adequate running times are allotted, picking up even large loads is a manageable task. STARS will help Scheduling determine proper running times, evaluate load factors, and determine appropriate service levels on a route. STARS data will eventually be applied to benefit every schedule of every route.

Future Bus and Van Procurement Plans

Richard W. Hardy
Vice President, Maintenance

Tired of driving 14 year old buses and 10 year old vans? Some relief is in sight. Toward the end of 2008, the City expects to take delivery of ten hybrid electric sixty-foot low floor buses built by New Flyer. The buses will have the stylish European look of Pearl City's last nine articulated buses (artics) but the quick acceleration and smooth operation of Kalihi-Palama's ten hybrid electric metallic silver artics. They will have the standard yellow and gold external stripes with the new blue-grey interior styling. These ten artics will retire ten of the 1993 vintage TMCs.

TheHandi-Van will also see new equipment this year. Toward the end of summer, the City expects to take delivery of ten new standard size vans. These vans will closely resemble the 2600- and 2700-series vans. They will replace older generation vans. Also, some time toward the end of the year, the City expects to take delivery of 18 mini-vans. These vans will be able to carry as many as two wheelchairs and a couple of passengers, depending on how we configure the removable seats. The vans are almost identical to the new Road Supervisor vans, but will have TheHandi-Van blue stripe coloring. These vans will be additions rather than replacements. Once these vehicles go into service, TheHandi-Van fleet will grow to 157.

APTA Procurement Conference



Photo Above: **Guil Colon, Technical Equipment Coordinator (far right) Kevin Dow, Program Manager-Technical Services, APTA (left of Guil) and various Maintenance Managers across the nation, attended the APTA Procurement and Maintenance Conference in New Orleans, LA. The group pictured was part of a workgroup that lent aid to Hurricane Katrina victims.**

Express!

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Calendar of Events

April

- 20 – Deadline to submit “Division Transfer” memos to Dispatch. (TheBus Roadeo and other events)

May

- 1 – OTS Bus Operators and Mechanics participating in International Bus Roadeo in Austin, Texas.
- 5 – Regular Run Sign-Up: Start Time: 2:00 p.m. for both Divisions.
- 6 – Regular Run Sign-Up: Start Time: 9:00 a.m. for the Pearl City Division.
Regular Run Sign-Up: Start Time: 2:00 p.m. for the Kalihi Division.
- 7-9 – Regular Run Sign-Up: Start Time: 9:00 a.m. for both Divisions.
- 12-14 – Regular Run Sign-Up: Start Time: 9:00 a.m. for both Divisions.
- 20 – Relief Run Completion: Start Time: 9:00 a.m. for both Divisions.

- 21 – Relief Run Completion: Start Time: 9:00 a.m. for the Kalihi Division.
- 26 – Memorial Day Holiday

June

- 8 – Effective Start Date of the June 2008 Sign-Up.
- 11 – Kamehameha Day Holiday

July

- 4 – Independence Day Holiday
- 6 – Deadline to submit “Division Transfer” memos to Dispatch
- 21 – Regular Run Sign-Up: Start Time: 2:00 p.m. for both Divisions.
- 22 – Regular Run Sign-Up: Start Time: 9:00 a.m. for the Pearl City Division.
- 22 – Regular Run Sign-Up: Start Time: 2:00 p.m. for the Kalihi Division.

- 23-25 – Regular Run Sign-Up: Start Time: 9:00 a.m. for both Divisions.
- 28-30 – Regular Run Sign-Up: Start Time: 9:00 a.m. for both Divisions.

August

- 5 – Relief Run Completion: Start Time: 9:00 a.m. for both Divisions.
- 6 – Relief Run Completion: Start Time: 9:00 a.m. for the Kalihi Division.
- 15 – Admission Day Holiday
- 24 – Effective Start Date of the August 2008 Sign-Up.

September

- 1 – Labor Day Holiday



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TheHandi-Van

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