

RTAP

BULLETIN

FLORIDA RURAL TRANSIT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

SPRING—VOL. 12, No. 1

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22ND ANNUAL
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2014 Florida Triple Crown Roadeo

In early April, Florida's best bus drivers and technicians participated in the 2014 2nd Annual Florida Triple Crown Bus Roadeo on lovely Daytona Beach. The Florida Triple Crown Roadeo combined the FPTA and RTAP roadeos into a single, colossal weekend honoring all of Florida's maintenance technicians, paratransit and fixed route operators.

The year's event was a joint effort of the Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA), the Florida Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP), the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and the Florida Association of Coordinated Transit Systems (FACTS), and hosted by Votran.

There were training opportunities for the participants. Then the bus operator participant's skills were tested with a written test and the on-course competition. The maintenance technicians faced similar challenges with a written test and a series of diagnostic tests.

As always, the event concluded with an Awards Banquet that crowned and recognized the 2014 champions in the paratransit van and cutaway divisions, the fixed route bus division, and the maintenance technician's team competition.

Small Bus Category: 1st place winner Dante Marinell from Lee Tran's Passport Services; 2nd place winner Linda Attaway from JTrans; and, 3rd place winner Ernest Rittman from Big Bend Transit.

Van Category: 1st place winner Tommy Griffis from JTrans; 2nd place winner Raymond Aylmer from Gulf County Transportation; and, 3rd place winner Peggy Shiver from Liberty County Transit.

Grand Champions: As the transit agency whose van and cutaway operators had the highest combined total scores, JTrans drove away with the honor of being the 2014 Paratransit Grand Champions.

Congratulations!!!!

Van Division Drivers



Small Bus Division Drivers



Paratransit Rodeo Winners

Grand Champions - JTRANS



L-R: Sharon Peeler, Tommy Griffiths, Robert Westbrook-FDOT, Linda Attaway

Small Bus Division Winner



L-R: 1st Place: Karen Deigl, FPTA Board Chair and Dante Marinell, Passport Services/LeeTran

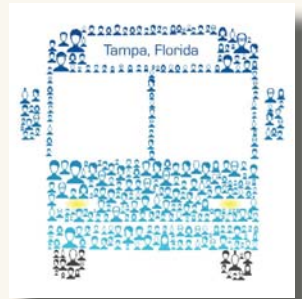
Van Division Winner



L-R: 1st Place: Tommy Griffiths, JTrans and Karen Deigl, FPTA Board Chair

2014 FDOT/FPTA/CUTR Professional Development Workshop and Safety Summit—June 2-4, 2014

Registration is now open for the 2014 FPTA/FDOT/CUTR Professional Development Workshop and Transit Safety Summit will be held on June 2-4, 2014 at the Embassy Suites-USF in Tampa.



The statewide workshop offers a unique professional development opportunity for Florida's public transportation supervisors, front-line employees, and other key staff in operations, maintenance, marketing, planning and administration. This one-stop-workshop offers excellent opportunities to learn from industry experts, attend professional development training, gather information about innovative industry research, and network with peers.

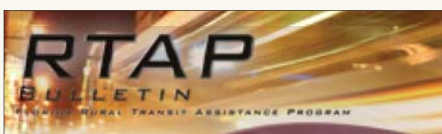
The Florida Transit Safety Network will be hosting its Annual Transit Safety Summit the day preceding the Professional Development Workshop. This summit is open to all Florida public transit professionals who are interested in promoting and improving transit system safety.

The Workshop and Summit are for supervisors and other key staff currently employed by Florida public agencies (e.g.: Florida transit systems, FDOT, etc.), Community Transportation Coordinators, planning agencies, transportation providers, and/or FPTA members.

Registration is FREE for FPTA members. There is a \$75 registration fee for ALL non-FPTA members, which will be invoiced following your registration.

Registration will be open until May 16, 2014.

To register online, go to www.cutr.usf.edu/fpta



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RTAP BULLETIN

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OUR MISSION

The Florida RTAP provides training, continuing education, and technical assistance to those who provide or assist in the provision of public transportation services in rural and small urban communities in order to promote the coordinated delivery of safe, efficient, and effective transit services.

Editor: Jay Goodwill Designer: Stephanie Lewis

SPOTLIGHT—Yolanda Moore, Training Support Specialist

Each SPOTLIGHT edition highlights one of our many energetic Florida RTAP transit professionals and allows these individuals to introduce themselves in their own words. In this issue, the SPOTLIGHT is on Yolanda Moore, Training Support Specialist



Name: Yolanda Moore (aka Yoli)

Title: Training Support Specialist

Birthplace: Greenville, NC

Education: University of South Florida—Bachelors, Communication; Leadership in Human Resource Development (LIHRD) Graduate Certificate; will be entering the Masters in Adult Education graduate program in the fall of 2014.

Professional History: I have worked on and off at USF since age 15. My first job at USF was at the Bookstore. I also worked registration for many years before I was hired part-time in 1989 as a Clerk with the Accounts Receivable and Administrative Offices. I was later hired full-time as a Cashier with Cash Collections. In 1992 I got married and then moved to Omaha, Nebraska. I was a stay at home mom for two years when I decided to return to work. I was then hired as a Financial Aid Clerk at the University of Nebraska-Omaha until 1997 when my husband, two children and I returned to Tampa. I was rehired at USF in the Payroll department as a Payroll Processor, and then later hired with the Accounts Payable Department as a Processor. In 1998, I was hired by CUTR as the Purchasing Coordinator/Office Assistant, and later promoted to the Transit Safety & Workforce Development Program as a Training Support Specialist.

On January 9, 2014 I ended my longstanding *career* with USF and begin a new journey with the Hillsborough County Administration as the Executive Assistant to the Deputy County Administrator of Public Safety and Community Services.

Years Working with Current Agency: 19 years

Years Working in Transit Industry: 8 years

Biggest Surprise in Paratransit: As a training coordinator I have found that there are agencies in the State of Florida who absolutely love what they do and sincerely enjoy the community they serve. It is very rare to see individuals seek to better themselves professionally, not just for professional or monetary gain, but as a benefit to their

agency and to impact their community! Another surprise was going to my first *rodeo* and realizing there wouldn't be a bus operator riding a bull. I was kinda disappointed about that one.

Biggest Challenge in Paratransit: Meeting the professional development and training needs of the RTAP Community.

Personal Benefit of Working in Paratransit: The opportunity to work alongside and get to know talented and knowledgeable individuals from nearly every facet of transit.

Community Involvement: I am heavily involved in the Worship Ministry at my church, Bell Shoals Baptist—Apollo Beach campus.

Personal Background: I was raised in South Bronx, New York and attended private Catholic schools until my family moved to Tampa in 1984. I attended King Sr. High School. My hobbies are reading, singing and shopping!! I have been married to Phillip for nearly 22 years. We have two adult children, Phylcia and Johnathon who mean the world to me. I am the oldest of four girls and I have one nephew. My mom, Yvonne will soon retire from USF after 29 years of employment. My father, William, was killed in Viet Nam when I was only two weeks old. Although I never knew him, the sacrifice he made for our country has given me a strong respect and admiration for our U.S. military and their families. I am forever thankful for his service to our nation.

Childhood Ambition: Growing up in New York I had the great opportunity to take dance lessons in Harlem. I wanted to be a dancer and choreographer. However my greatest ambition was to be a writer and journalist, and host my own TV/radio talk show.

Inspiration: My dad, William Hyman; my Mom, Yvonne Edwards; my mother in-law, Irene Moore; and Simeon Nix, former worship pastor. However, and most important is my personal relationship with the Lord. I'm so thankful that He loves me in spite of me!

Favorite Book: *Redeeming Love*, by Francine Rivers

My Mottos: "It is what it is!"; "Some things people say about us are true and a reminder that we're not perfect. Some things people say about us are NOT true and a reminder that NO ONE is perfect." -Yolanda Moore; "The ultimate measure of a man or woman is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Transportation Disadvantaged Legislative Awareness Day— March 13, 2014

The Annual Transportation Disadvantaged Legislative Awareness Day was hosted by the (Florida Association of Coordinated Transportation Systems (FACTS) through the funds donated by sponsors. This event is designed to generate awareness and support for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program among the members of the Florida Legislation.



Members of the Jacksonville Transportation Advisory Committee visited with State Representative Lake Ray. L-R: Wanda Hathaway, Gary Chambers, William Martignetti, Representative Ray, Dorothy Corlew, Nina Lentz, Walter Johnson and Sue Metcalf (standing)



The Division of Blind Services staffed one of several information booths at the Annual Transportation Disadvantaged Legislative Awareness Day.



Opening Ceremony

Yoli Leaves RTAP—Will Be Missed

In January of this year long time Florida RTAP staff member, Yoli Moore accepted an outstanding position with Hillsborough County as Executive Assistant to the Deputy County Administrator for Public Works and Community Services. She will be missed! Yoli was an integral component of the Florida RTAP program for over a decade and was part of the USF community for over 25 years and a tremendous asset to CUTR in her 15 years here. Good Luck, Yoli!



Transitional Contacts:

For training assistance and inquiries, please contact Molly Buffington at buffington@cutr.usf.edu or (813) 974-7810.

For questions or issues regarding the Transportation Learning, Learning Management System (LMS), please contact Stephanie Lewis at zavacki@cutr.usf.edu or (813) 974-1123.

Inquiries regarding Florida RTAP should be directed to Jay Goodwill at jaygoodwill@cutr.usf.edu or (813) 974-8755.

Registration is Open

2014 FDOT/FPTA/CUTR Professional Development Workshop and Safety Summit

June 2-4, 2014

Don't Delay, Register Today!

www.cutr.usf.edu/fpta

Deadline: May 16, 2014

2014 UPCOMING EVENTS

The classes and conferences listed below are sponsored by the Florida Department of Transportation and the Center for Urban Transportation Research at the University of South Florida in Tampa. If you would like to attend any of the courses, you will find a course announcement and registration form for each course at www.floridartap.org in the Training Calendar section. Click on the course name to download or view training class details. If you have an idea for a training course or would like to host a course, please contact Lisa Staes at staes@cutr.usf.edu.

May 19-23, 2014

Instructor's Course (FT00562)¹—Tampa, FL

June 2-4, 2014

2014 FPTA/FDOT/CUTR Professional Development Workshop and Transit Safety Summit—Tampa, FL

June 17-18, 2014

FTA Triennial Review Workshop—Tampa, FL

June 23-27, 2014

Advanced Problems in Bus Collision Investigation²—St. Petersburg, FL

July 29-30, 2014

22nd Annual TD Conference and CTD Board Meeting—Orlando, FL

August 5-7, 2014

Transit Threat and Vulnerability Assessment—Tampa, FL

October 26-28, 2014

40th Annual FPTA Conference—Naples, FL

¹ Required course for the Florida Transit Operator Trainer Training Certification

² Prerequisite: Successful completion of FT00435 - Fundamentals of Bus Collision Investigation

22nd Annual Transportation Disadvantaged Best Practices and Training Workshop Orlando, Florida—July 29-30, 2014



The Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) will be hosting its 22nd Annual Transportation Disadvantaged Best Practices and Training Workshop at the Renaissance Orlando Hotel at Sea World from July 29-30, 2014. We look forward to seeing you in Orlando!

There will be a Commission business meeting on July 28, 2014.