

CTAV

Community Transportation Association of Virginia

First QUARTER NEWSLETTER-2010

PURPOSE and MISSION STATEMENT

Purpose: Transportation solutions for everyone;

Mission: To serve as an advocate for consumers and providers of community-based transportation.

FROM THE CTAV PRESIDENT

In March I had the opportunity to meet with Virginia's new Secretary of Transportation, Sean Connaughton, along with eight members of VTA. We were very pleased that both Mr. Connaughton and the new administration seem very interested in supporting transit across the Commonwealth.

The Secretary even beat us to the punch on several issues we'd planned to raise; he was well aware that huge new projects in Tidewater and Northern Virginia could suck up all funding, leaving nothing for other systems in the state. They are actively working to ensure that doesn't happen. He also pointed out that they've seen localities lose out on economic development opportunities as a direct result of not having transit. Needless to say, that makes a great argument for expanding transit across the Commonwealth. His administration is focused mobility,

which includes moving both people and goods.

In addition to requests for state support in soliciting additional funds from the federal government (especially to fund Metro expenses), we pointed out the dramatic increases in fees that must be paid to the Department of General Services (DGS) when making capital purchases, as well as the fact that DGS is so short-staffed that projects are taking much too long to implement.

Among the initiatives Mr. Connaughton is supporting:
> Gathering suggestions from around the state on statutory changes that inhibit fulfilling missions and effectiveness. They hope to have wish lists by May in order to convene a special session of the General Assembly in September to make some changes. The Secretary says that transportation will be a big part of any discussion of government reform.

> Creating a unified transportation plan for all six of the agencies under the Secretary of Transportation.

He pointed out that there is little correspondence between the Six Year, 2035 and STP Plans, though said transit is the exception to that.

> Convening a special session on transportation if there is consensus before next January; if not, this will be a prime focus during the next General Assembly.

All in all, it was a very cordial meeting and it was especially useful to have Floyd Merryman in attendance to give businessman's perspective on the need for transit. He also talked about AltaVista's desire to start a transit system, so the meeting covered systems both large and small.

Donna

Special points of interest:

- Letter From the President
- What's Happening at various transit agencies
- Con't What's Happening & Upcoming Events
- CTAV Calendar
- Miscellaneous
- Advertisements



NEWS FROM TRANSIT SYSTEMS & VENDORS

JAUNT, INC.

SURVIVING THE SNOWPOCALYPSE

On the weekend of December 18th, JAUNT faced the most daunting snow challenge in the thirty-five winters we've been running. Our commitment to make sure that everyone gets home safely was put to the test. When it became clear that road closures and blizzard conditions meant we couldn't get everyone home that night, we moved stranded passengers and drivers into hotels. The last passengers got home nearly 48 hours later, but we were very pleased to emerge from the snow drifts without any accidents or injuries.

Although the forecast was for snow on the weekend before Christmas, it was expected to move in late that Friday night, long after our passengers were safely in their beds. But the snow began in the late afternoon and within an hour had made many roads impassable. By 5:00 p.m. even inside Charlottesville cars were sliding off the roads and we still had over 140 passengers who needed to get home to five different counties. While our vehicles are very safe in snow, we could not control the "other" drivers and cars blocked city streets as well as primary roads. On three routes heading out into the country, drivers reported impassable roads and we asked them to turn around while we searched for shelter opportunities. We contacted the Emergency Operations Center, the Salvation Army and a local church, then when those options were unavailable, moved to finding hotel rooms for both staff and drivers. We were lucky to still find rooms; by later on Saturday there wasn't a room to be had in Charlottesville. The area opened a snow shelter early on Saturday morning to help the hundreds of stranded motorists.

This was the fourth highest recorded snowfall in the Charlottesville region, but amount of snow (20 to 23 inches) was less of a problem than the fact that it fell so fast and heavily, with several inches per hour. Snowplows got stuck, in addition to nearly one hundred tractor-trailers and hundreds of cars.

We are so grateful to the Good Samaritans who stopped to help our drivers get back on the road (or in two cases, get stranded vehicles off the road out of harm's way). The Fire Department in Lovington provided shelter for one driver who was rescued by the Nelson Sheriff's Department; the National Guard took him home the next day (even their Hummer got stuck and had to be rescued). Our staff performed flawlessly, with a dispatcher on the job until 2:30 a.m. when she heard that the last driver had reached shelter. Drivers not only kept their passengers safe on the road, they also looked after them in the hotels and made sure they were fed and comfortable.

Con't JAUNT, INC.

One driver drove through the night to get a group of passengers home safely from Wintergreen. When he got to Charlottesville he arranged for them to wait in the hotel lobby and used JAUNT'S SUV to take them home in smaller groups, dropping off the last passenger at 8:00 a.m. the next morning. What should have been a one hour trip turned into a twelve-hour trip.

Incredibly, roads were still blocked on Saturday and our folks spent another night in the hotel before we were able to dig out enough vehicles (and VDOT was able to clear enough roads) to get everyone home safely on Sunday afternoon. In the meantime, staff continued to rally to care for the stranded passengers, clear our lot, and dig out stranded vehicles all over our service area.

Outside of losing a couple of tires that lost an argument with their chains, we emerged unscathed from the snow-pocalypse with the gratitude of our passengers and their families.

COLONIAL EQUIPMENT CO.

COLONIAL EQUIPMENT CO. DELIVERS HYBRID ELECTRIC CITIBUSEStm TO HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

County ordered eight buses of a contract valued at nominal \$1.6 Million for 2010

Monrovia, Md. - January 11, 2010 - Colonial Equipment Company (www.thebusplace.com), the premier supplier of customized vans, buses and alternative fuel vehicles to the Mid-Atlantic Region and an authorized General Services Administration (GSA) supplier, announced that it has delivered the first order of a year-long, 25 bus contract with the Government of Howard County, Maryland. The contract will provide the County the opportunity to replace existing vehicles in their fleet with Azure CitiBusestm which reduce harmful emissions and increase fuel efficiency. Upon award of the contract, the County immediately placed an order for eight CitiBuses and has the option to order an additional 17 over the next year.

The Azure CitiBus is a commercially available Series Hybrid Electric vehicle based on the Supreme Corporation Star Trans Bus Division's HD Senator bus body.

NEWS FROM TRANSIT SYSTEMS & VENDORS

Con't COLONIAL EQUIPMENT CO.

This clean, fuel-efficient alternative to conventional shuttle buses offers engine-off at stop functionality and regenerative braking. Implementation of the CitiBus as part of the County's fleet is intended to improve fuel economy by up to 50% while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by up to 30%. This environmentally responsible solution further saves money by reducing vehicle maintenance by up to 30%. The CitiBus has completed the Altoona 200,000 mile, seven-year test and meets the requirements for the Buy America and FTA funding programs.

Howard County was the first county in the state of Maryland to establish an "Office of Sustainability" and has a focused dedication to green solutions. A specific policy has been created to begin phasing in hybrid vehicles for all vehicles in its fleet that had a hybrid equivalent. The County currently owns 50 hybrid vehicles comprising about 15% of the fleet- currently the largest in the state.

"Colonial Equipment Company is proud to contribute to the green movement in Maryland and more specifically, Howard County," said Donald Combs, President Colonial Equipment Co. "Through our partnership with Azure Dynamics, we strive to deliver top of the line transportation solutions eligible for Stimulus Package funding."

Leading the way in green transportation options for the area, Colonial Equipment Co. offers a variety of alternative-fuel vehicles such as: clean Fuel, Hybrid Drive Electric, Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), and Propane and Ultra Capacitor Electric Drive.

Colonial Equipment Co. and Azure Dynamics previously partnered on GSA CitiBus sales for the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. and the United States Air Force Academy in Fort Collins, Colorado. These buses were sold in 2008 and are now in active service for the respective fleet operators.

For more information about Colonial Equipment Co. and its products, please visit www.thebusplace.com or call 1-800-GO-BY-BUS.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

2010 VIRGINIA STATE PARATRANSIT ROADEO

Saturday, April 10th

LOCATION: Chesterfield County Fairgrounds
10300 Courthouse Road
Chesterfield, VA

TIME: [7:00 a.m.](#)

HOST HOTEL: Courtyard by Marriott, Richmond-Chester
2001 W. Hundred Road
Chester, VA 23836
804-414-1010 - CTA V Block
Rate: \$92.00 plus taxes

Coming in on Friday, April 9th - Hospitality Suite will be open from 7:00 pm. - 10:00 pm. for light refreshments and early Rodeo Registration!

Contact Peggy Oates - 540-247-0486 or pggoates15@gmail.com if you need more info or have any questions.

New River Valley Senior Services, Inc.

!!GOLF OUTING!!

June 23, 2010

**Location: The Draper Valley Country Club
2800 Big Valley Road
Draper, VA 24324-2008**

**For more information call:
540-980-7780
ask for Monica Music or Gary Heinline**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR: 2010 CTAV EXPO - August 17, 18 & 19
Fredericksburg EXPO & Conference Center
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401
2371 Carl D. Silver Parkway
Fredericksburg, VA 22401**

**CTAV
CALENDAR OF MEETINGS, LOCATIONS AND EVENTS
2009—2010**

OCTOBER 22nd

10:00a.m.—1:00 p.m.

CTAV Board MeetingRockbridge Area
Transportation
System

Lexington

NOVEMBER 19th

10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

CTAV Board Meeting

VA Regional Transit

Culpeper

DECEMBER**HAPPY HOLIDAYS****No Meeting****JANUARY 7th**

10:00a.m.—1:00 p.m.

CTAV Board Meeting**City of
Harrisonburg Public
Transit****Harrisonburg****FEBRUARY 1st**5:00p.m.—7:00 p.m.
VTA/Sponsors
Legislative Recpt.**25th**10:00am-1:00pm
CTAV Board Meeting
Michie Tavern**Charlottesville****MARCH 25th**

10:00a.m.—1:00 p.m.

CTAV Board Meeting**Graham Transit****Bluefield****APRIL 9th**

6:00p.m.—8:30p.m.

CTAV Board Meeting
Courtyard Marriott
Chester**10th****CTAV Roadeo**
Chesterfield**MAY****NO MEETING****JUNE 24th**10:00a.m.—1:00p.m.
CTAV Board Meeting**Location: TBD****JULY 22nd**

10:00 am —1:00pm

CTAV Board Meeting
Mt. Rogers IDC
Adkins**AUGUST****17th, 18th & 19th****CTAV EXPO**
Fredericksburg**SEPTEMBER 23 & 24th****CTAV RETREAT**
Smith Mountain Lake



MISCELLANEOUS

CTAV SCHOLARSHIP

Application are now being accepted for 2010 CTAV \$1,000.00 Scholarship.

For the application, eligibility requirements and deadline date, visit the CTAV website: ctav.org

**CTAA ROADEO GUIDE,
Now on the CTAV Website.**

Listed under Resources/Downloadables/Transit Documents/Roaddeo Info.

Request for E-Mail Address Updates

If you are a CTAV member and have changed your e-mail address or not receiving any e-mails from CTAV, please notify Peggy at pggoates15@gmail.com with your updated information.

HELP WANTED

Employment opportunities can be placed in the CTAV Newsletter if you are seeking a way to get the word out to all members.
E-mail pggoates15@gmail.com before the middle of June if interested.

CTAV Members at the VTA Reception in January, 2010



THERE'S A NEW DAY DAWNING!



New Ride Along! **CTAV Workers Compensation Insurance Program**

Our Workers Compensation Insurance Program can now ride along with your existing CTAV Insurance package. If you presently have your commercial package, auto and umbrella coverage through the CTAV Insurance Program, the new Workers Compensation program is available to you. If you currently participate in the Virginia Workers Compensation Assigned Risk program you can move your workers compensation coverage over to the CTAV Program at any time without penalty. We believe most members will see substantial cost savings with this new program. Don't have your insurance through CTAV? Give us a call today, to get a quote.

For a free, no obligation CTAV insurance
analysis and proposal contact:
Don Thornhill, AFIS, CIC, LUTCF
Bankers Insurance: 800-541-1419

BANKERS INSURANCE
insuring today to insure tomorrow

315 Old Ivy Way, P.O. Box 7606, Charlottesville, VA 22906
Tel: 800-541-1419 or 434-977-5313 • Fax: 434-977-3954 • email: dthornhill@bankersinsurance.net
Formerly Cabell-Bankers Insurance

Coverages offered through the CTAV program include, (but are not limited to):

• **Commercial Property:**

- Business income—actual sustained loss
- Systems breakdown coverage
- \$50,000 computers and media
- \$25,000 employee dishonesty
- \$25,000 food spoilage
- \$10,000 money and securities and many other coverages automatically included

• **General Liability**

- Volunteer and temp workers included
- \$15,000 medical payments

• **Professional Liability**

- Occurrence form
- \$1,000,000 – \$3,000,000 limits
- Employees, volunteers and students in training included in coverage

• **Automobile**

- Liability symbol 1 – any automobile
- Lease gap coverage
- \$35,000 Hired car physical damage
- \$500 Physical damage for employees' or volunteers' vehicles

• **Crime**

• **Workers' Compensation**

• **Fiduciary Liability**

• **Other Optional**

Coverage:

- Sexual misconduct coverage
- Key employee replacement
- Directors and officers liability
- Umbrella catastrophe liability coverage up to \$15,000,000 limit
- Fidelity bonds



CTAV Delivers Superior Insurance Coverage to You!

As a member of the Community Transportation Association of Virginia, you're eligible to participate in the CTAV Property and Casualty Insurance Program.

This comprehensive insurance program offers superior coverages tailored specifically to organizations such as yours. Many of these coverages are not found in traditional insurance policies. Additionally, your organization can benefit from the premium savings offered through the "group rate".

The program is underwritten by **Selective Insurance**—a stable company with A+ (superior) rating from both A.M. Best and Standard and Poor's.

In addition to superior coverage, the program includes:

- Loss control/risk management/safety training
- 24-hour claims service
- *Safety First* Program and *National Safety News* Newsletter
- Customer Care Website

For a free, no obligation CTAV insurance analysis and proposal contact:

Don Thornhill, AFIS, CIC, LUTCF
of Bankers Insurance: 800-541-1419

BANKERS INSURANCE.INC.
Insuring today to ensure tomorrow.

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