



# JULY 2012 Newsletter

## Connecticut Transportation Updates

### Annual Bus Rodeo

The 2012 Connecticut Statewide Transit Rodeo held on Sunday, June 10, 2012 at the Buckland Commuter Park & Ride Lot in Manchester was a huge success. Congratulations to all the participants, awardees and the many volunteers.



*Mike Sanders of CTDOT and Mary Tomolonius, CACT Executive Director, presenting an award to Alvin Waugh of CTTRANSIT Hartford Division, third place finisher in this year's 40-foot bus (and winner of the 2011 Rodeo 35-foot "rookie" award) competition.*

*Mike Sanders of CTDOT and Mary Tomolonius, CACT Executive Director, presenting an award to Body-on-Chassis team award winners (L to R) from HARtransit Herman Simoes, Jenny Escobedo, and Luz Velez. [Mr. Simoes was the first place finisher in this event, as well]*

*Mike Sanders of CTDOT and Mary Tomolonius, CACT Executive Director, presenting an award to Frank Thorpe of Estuary Transit District, Fourth Place finisher in Body-on-Chassis and the winner of 2012 Body-on-Chassis "Rookie" award.*

## Developing Connecticut's Transit Future Forum

The Partnership for Strong Communities sponsored the "Developing Connecticut's Transit Future: Strategic Placemaking and Economic Opportunity" forum on Friday, June 15, 2012. Due to the number of attendees the event was moved from the Lyceum to the Legislative Office Building. Keynote Speaker Stan Eckstut, FAIA, Principal, EE&K said "public space is about quality not quantity in placemaking" and that there is the tendency to think of transit as a daytime operation, not a nighttime operation. He noted that policies need to integrate transit, housing and pedestrian friendly streets and that transit agencies need to work with developers. Robert Lane, RPA said that, "people will not walk one minute if they don't feel safe, but if people perceive the walk as safe and scenic they will walk ten minutes to transit." Duo Dickinson, architect from Madison regaled the audience with his experiences successfully getting Madison to rethink their approach to landscaping and enhancing the transit station. A panel discussion followed.

## National Transportation Updates

### Transportation Bill

After considerable debate Congress finally passed a \$100 billion transportation bill which continues funding through 2014. Thanks to everyone who contacted their legislators to urge passage of this legislation. <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0612/78032.html>

## CACT Updates

### CACT Membership Elects New Board

At CACT's Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon on June 20<sup>th</sup>, Nominating Chair Barbara Kalosky presented the new slate of officers which was unanimously passed by the membership. The 2012-2014 Members are: **Officers:** Chairperson Jonathan Rubell, *The Kennedy Center, Inc.*; Vice Chairperson Joe Comerford, *9 Town Transit*; Secretary Pegi Brandt, *Norwalk Transit District*; Treasurer Tami Ostroski, *Northwestern CT Transit District*; **Board:** Alan Naudas, *Greater New Haven Transit District*; DJ Gonzalez, *Greater*

Hartford Transit District; Kim Morton, CTTransit; Barbara Kalosky, North East Transportation and Henry Jadach, Milford Transit District.

## CACT Wedding & Baby

Congratulations to newly elected CACT Chairman Jonathan Rubell on his recent marriage to Alexis and to CACT Vice Chairman Joe Comerford on the May 21<sup>st</sup> birth of his son Ethan Joseph.

## Advertising in the CACT Newsletter

CACT is now accepting ads for our monthly newsletter. The rates are full page \$300; ½ page \$150; and ¼ page \$100. CACT members receive a 10% discount. All ads must be camera ready in either a tiff or jpeg format and received by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. The newsletter is emailed during the first week of each month. Email your ad to [mary.cact@yahoo.com](mailto:mary.cact@yahoo.com).

## CACT Annual Meeting

The CACT Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon was held at Indian Hill Country Club in Newington on June 20. More than 75 members and awardees attended. During the meeting portion, there was a unanimous vote to elect the new 2012-2014 CACT Executive Officers and Board Members. Outgoing Chairman Alan Naudus said he was proud to serve as Chairman and thought the new Chairman Jonathan Rubell would do an outstanding job. Board member Pegi Brandt will now serve as Secretary, and former CACT Secretary Joe Comerford will now serve as the Vice Chairman along with new board member Henry Jadach.

A special award was presented to the Cheeseman Family in memory of long time CACT member and advocate Tom Cheeseman. The plaque will be mounted in the new Middletown Area Transit Bus Maintenance Facility. Unfortunately Governor Malloy was unable to attend to accept the Thomas Phillips Founders Award. Congratulations to all the Excellence in Transportation and Friends of Public Transportation Award recipients.



(LtoR) Mike Sanders  
Senator Hartley;  
Barbara Kalosky,  
Jonathan Rubell



(LtoR) Doug  
Holcomb, Steven  
DeMichele (GBT),  
Jonathan Rubell



(LtoR) Jonathan  
Rubell, Richard  
Palladino (NWCTD),  
Maria Vaccarelli



(LtoR) Jonathan  
Rubell, Thai Ly,  
Nuno Torres  
(CTTransit)



(LtoR) Jonathan  
Rubell, Nancy  
Ferrantella, Mario  
Sianorelli (CTTransit)



(LtoR) Jonathan  
Rubell, Jim  
Reginatto (NWTD),  
Tami Ostrowski



(LtoR) Jonathan  
Rubell, Irv Fisher  
(GNHTD), Mike  
Klubek



(LtoR) Jonathan  
Rubell, Paul Tyrrell,  
Greg Scott (ETD),  
Joseph Comerford



(LtoR) Victor Marques,  
David Wray (CTTransit),  
Jonathan Rubell



(LtoR) Thomas  
Clark accepting on  
behalf of Mayor  
Segarra, Jonathan  
Rubell



## CACT Member Highlight: Richard Schreiner

**Richard Schreiner** is the Director of Service Development for HARTransit in Danbury. Hired in 1993 as Employee Commute Options Manager, Richard was promoted to his current position in 1995. His responsibilities include service and operations planning, marketing, community relations and major procurements.

Richard has served on the Connecticut Public Transportation Commission for the past 10 years and is currently Vice-chairman. He received a public service award from the Connecticut Secretary of the State in 2003.

Prior to working at HARTransit, he was the executive director of the Long Island Sound Taskforce. Richard is a graduate of SUNY Purchase with a BA in Environmental Science.

## Opinions & Opportunities

### Free Membership for Veterans

WTS International is offering veterans a free one-year membership to WTS International because they believe that a successful career begins with the right resources. For further information call 202-955-9085 or email: [membership@wtsinternational.org](mailto:membership@wtsinternational.org)

### Do You Have News or Updates for the CACT Newsletter?

If you have news of interest, please email a brief update to [mary.cact@yahoo.com](mailto:mary.cact@yahoo.com).

**CACT BOARD MEMBERS:** Jonathan Rubell, Chairperson, *The Kennedy Center; Inc.*; Joseph Comerford, Vice Chairman, *Estuary Transit District*; Tammy Ostroski, Treasurer, *Northwestern CT Transit District*; Secretary Pegi Brandt, *Norwalk Transit District*; DJ Gonzalez, *Greater Hartford Transit District*; Henry Jadach, *Milford Transit District*; Barbara Kalosky, *North East Transportation Co., Inc.*; Kimberlee Morton, *CTTransit*; Alan Naudus, *Greater New Haven Transit* **CACT Executive Director:** Mary Tomolonius



# It's Not Pretty Just Pretty Effective

**What's In Your Wall?**

This cross section of our galvanized steel roll cage makes a bus "a bus". These steel sidewalls extend beneath the floor and when welded and bolted in place, provide added strength and safety in the event of an accident. It may seem strange, but we spend considerable time thinking about safety, because although your passengers take it for granted, we can't. That's why we build it in from the ground up, then test it—specifically the FMVSS 214 side impact test.

At a proving facility in Wisconsin, a 4,000 lb. steel sled approaching 35 m.p.h. slammed into the side of our bus. The concussion was mind blowing—the damage to the bus was minimal. In fact, we drove the bus back home! Steel cage design is unique to our buses and as noted above, it's not pretty, just pretty effective.

Here are just a few more features:

- Low center of gravity that reduces rollover potential.
- Floor frame of 11 gauge steel Z members.
- Laminated walls for structural integrity.

For more information check us out on the web or call **Paul Hubbard at: 585-330-2402** or email: [phubb18281@aol.com](mailto:phubb18281@aol.com)

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# Have a safe and happy July 4<sup>th</sup>!