



The Switch Iron



Volume 2 Number 5

December 2008

Transit Heritage News

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The Manitoba Transit
Heritage Association
P.O. Box 2388
Station Main
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3C 4A6

This newsletter is
published four times per
year and is distributed
free to members.

Season's Greetings...

...and Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday!



Ho ho ho! Merry Christmas!

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association's bus 751 was seen glowing in bright red Christmas lights the night before it appeared in the 2008 Jaycee's Santa Claus Parade.

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association, together in partnership with Winnipeg Transit, entered bus 751 as a float in the 2008 Jaycee Santa Claus Parade.

The bus was outfitted with a power inverter and 2,100 red energy efficient LED Christmas lights. A very special "Thanks" goes out to Michael Coleman, Bill Shepell, Brian Oliver, Egon Kesterke, Ivan Granger, Rick Link, Lawrence Kozak (installed inverter), Guy Fontaine (bus inspection & tune-up), Lorne Gigolyk (worked with Guy Fontaine), Morley Calahan, Don Devissor, Jim Northcliffe, and Brett Munro.

The nice warm bus was safely driven by MTHA Vice-President Dennis Cavanagh who was joined on-board by his wife Sharon Cavanagh, David Wyatt, Steven and Monica Stothers, Christian Cassidy, and Ron Alexander.

Delivering Some Christmas Cheer

Members of the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association along with members from the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1505 hope to make the Christmas season a little more happier for some as they use bus 751 to deliver food hampers to needy individuals and families on behalf of the Christmas Cheer Board on Saturday, December 20th.

By using a large bus the MTHA and ATU hope to deliver as many hampers possible to the most people they can across the City all on one day. Approximately 15 volunteers from both organizations have agreed to join to be on the bus delivering food hampers.

MTHA Board Meeting

About Us

Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc.

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association is a non-profit charitable organization whose members volunteer to restore old transit vehicles for historical purposes, and provide the restored transit vehicles for public parades and displays.

The MTHA also collects transit related memorabilia. If you wish to donate vintage items, please contact:

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc.

P.O. Box 2388
Station Main
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3C 4A6

Executive

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc. executive members are:

Alex Regiec
President

Dennis Cavanagh
Vice-President

Guy Fontaine
Treasurer

David A. Wyatt
Interim-Treasurer

Ross Smith
Secretary

Welcome



The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc. welcomes the following new members:

Darryl Antymniuk
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Bob Cooper
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Craig Gill
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Tuesday, September 16th, 2008 at Fort Rouge Garage

Recorded by Ross Smith, MTHA Secretary

Present:

Ron Alexander, John Kapusta, Ross Smith, Dennis Cavanagh, John Panting, Terry Wark, Franz Wark, Pat Rogoski, Mike Kubas, Wade Razella, Tom Dudych, Steve Stothers, Christian Cassidy, Brian Schuff, Manny Jacob, and Alex Regiec.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 19:05.

Review of Minutes

The minutes of the 7th May 2008 meeting were reviewed. Motion to adopt by Ron Alexander; Seconded by Dennis Cavanagh. Carried.

Treasurer's Report

Guy Fontaine's duties will be temporarily assumed by David Wyatt on an interim basis during Guy's leave of absence. Alex Regiec made a motion to adopt; Seconded by Wade Razella. Carried.

President's Report

Alex introduced new members to the MTHA Board. Wade Razella works for Winnipeg Transit, and Steve Stother and Christian Cassidy are from Heritage Winnipeg. Alex Regiec made a motion to adopt; Seconded by Terry Wark. Carried.

Alex talked about the success of the MTHA display at the Red River Exhibition and that approximately \$900 was raised in donation through the farebox.

He also discussed the success of the Downtown Heritage Tours conducted with Heartland International Travel & Tours and that both trips were sold out.

Bus Historian and Journalist Bill Luke of Spokane, Washington visited this summer, with some members of the MTHA taking Bill out for supper on-board bus 111. After being picked up in lane 3 at the Winnipeg Bus Depot, Bill remarked how he hadn't rode on a Twin Coach since 1955!

Finally, Alex reported on Dennis and Pat's adventure with buses 111 and 28 at the East St. Paul Legion's Show and Shine.

Old Business

Vehicle Report:

Bus 111 needs it's hand brake repaired.

Bus 214 had its seats fitted. Need to secure seats and construct wheel well seat frames.

Bus 565 needs wiring done and muffler.

Bus 28 requires a good interior wash.

Bus 751 requires an inspection and tune-up.

Bus 953 needs four seats installed.

Bus 1768 has returned to storage. Needs exterior paint and body work.

Vehicle Acquisition:

Bus 428 - Contact has been made with Billy Stefanchuk about purchasing this 1958 GM bus.

New Business

Steven and Christian gave a presentation about the restoration project for Streetcar 356 spearheaded by Heritage Winnipeg Inc. T-shirts have been printed as part of the fundraising effort. Alex Regiec made a motion to print MTHA logos on T-Shirts; Seconded by Ross Smith. Carried.

Alex reported that he has held discussions with Cindy Tugwell, Executive Director, Heritage Winnipeg regarding the Transit Museum project. Cindy has agreed to assist the MTHA with funding proposals.

Wade Razella spoke about his design concepts for the MTHA website. Alex Regiec made a motion to redesign the website; Seconded by Manny Jacob. Carried.

Dennis Cavanagh motioned that Mike Kubas be appointed MTHA Gaming Chair; Seconded by Ron Alexander. Carried.

Tom Dudych motioned that the MTHA purchase Board of Directors Insurance; Seconded by Wade Razella. Carried.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 20:45.

MTHA Notice of Next Meeting

Wednesday, December 17th, 2008
Second Floor Board Room
Fort Rouge Garage - 421 Osborne Street

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Review Minutes of Meeting from September 26th, 2008
3. Treasurer's Report
4. President's Message
5. Old Business
 - Vehicle Reports
 - Vehicle Acquisition
6. New Business
 - 1942 MCI Trolley Coach Builder's Plate
 - Streetcar 356
 - Transit Museum
 - History Book
7. Other Items
8. Adjourn

Plan to attend! New Members welcomed! Coffee and donuts will be served.

Join in the group picture of MTHA Members that will be taken after the meeting.

And stylish new Tee-Shirts will be available for purchase.

New Tee-Shirts Now Available

Members of the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association can now purchase stylish new tee-shirts as part of a fundraiser for the restoration for streetcar 356 and bus 565.

The quality new shirts feature the Winnipeg Electric Company logo on the front and a 8 & 1/3 cent Winnipeg Electric Company ticket on the back. The logos of both the MTHA and Heritage Winnipeg are on the sleeves.

The shirts are available for \$25.00 and can be purchased at the next MTHA Board Meeting on Wednesday, December 17th at 7:00 pm at Fort Rouge garage.



... makes a great Christmas Present!

Winnipeg Transit employees Deidre Schultz and Randy Tonnellier model the new MTHA Tee-shirt featuring the vintage Winnipeg Electric Company logo.

From The Photo Album

If you have a photograph of a vintage transit vehicle from anywhere in Manitoba that you would like to share, please send it to the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc. P.O. Box 2388 Winnipeg, Manitoba R



Greater Winnipeg Transit Commission streetcars 728 and 324, and electric trolley coach 1762 travel westbound on Portage Avenue near Hargrave Street passing the Eaton's Department store during the Christmas shopping season.
Courtesy of Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Collection