



Manitoba Transit Heritage Association, Inc.

THE SWITCH IRON

April 2017

Volume Ten

Issue Number One

Editor: Alex Regiec

MTHA:
BAGGAGE IDENTIFICATION TAG
All baggage must be tagged before
boarding bus.
DESTINATION: _____
VIA: _____
NAME _____

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association (MTHA) is non-profit museum and registered charitable organization whose volunteers collect and preserve historic public transit memorabilia and classic vehicles.

MTHA celebrates Canada's 150 birthday with many events planned for this year!



This year is the 150th Anniversary of Canadian Confederation. The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association is busy making plans to celebrate throughout our beautiful city and province by attending many events.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

David Wyatt, MTHA Historian, together with Ross Smith, MTHA Secretary, will be on the road making presentations to the Holy Trinity Senior's Group, Headingley Heritage Centre and the Simkin Senior's Centre during the months of April and May.

JOYS OF SUMMER CRUISER

Both MTHA volunteers and CJNU personalities will bring this giant motor coach cruiser to various festivals and to Winnipeg Goldeyes games. Watch for us this summer.

THE GREAT PLAINS, A TRAIN AND A BUS

The big event for the MTHA this year is planned for July 1st, Canada Day. Watch our website for details on heritage tour involving a train travelling across the prairie flat lands and a return bus ride home.

HERITAGE DAYS IN STEINBACH, MANITOBA

The MTHA will be busy attending various community fairs and parades, including the Heritage Days celebrations in Steinbach.

FABULOUS FIFTIES FLASHBACK WEEKEND

The vintage buses of the MTHA heritage fleet will be featured at Garden City Shopping Centre on August 4, 2017.

SUNDAY NIGHT CRUISE AT THE PONY CORAL

Finally, our grande finale will occur as one of the featured clubs at the Pony Coral on Grant at Wilton on August 27, 2017. The entire MTHA vintage fleet will be on display.

MTHA PARTNERS WITH CJNU 93.7 FM NOSTALGIA RADIO



Ex-Northern Bus Lines #112 sporting a colourful vinyl wrap as the "Joys of Summer" cruiser.

For the joys of Summer ...

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association (MTHA) will be partnering with Nostalgia Broadcasting Cooperative (CJNU 93.7 FM) to decorate a vintage motorcoach as a promotional vehicle.

MTHA volunteers and CJNU personalities will bring this giant motor coach cruiser to visit various summer festivals across Winnipeg, and broadcasting live from the Goldeyes baseball games.

This coach should be on the road in May until September.



Regular meeting of the MTHA Board of Directors

HELD ON FEBRUARY 28, 2017 AT NORTH GARAGE IN WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

RECORDED BY:

Ross Smith, MTHA Secretary

PRESENT:

Al Brunsel, Linley James, Alex Regiec, Ross Smith, Roger Hamelin, David Wyatt, Pat Rogoski, Elizabeth Peters, Kuba Galobeski, Anna Galobeski, Jim Legge, Wayne Smith, John Kapusta, Bob Cooper, Peter Elwick and Logan Poole.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 19:05.

MINUTES OF MEETING:

MOTION: Wayne Smith moved the approval of the minutes as read. Peter Elwick seconded. Carried.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

In Memoriam: Alan Brunsel mentioned the loss of Winnipeg Transit Bus Operator Irvine Jubal Fraser on Valentine's Day. The Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1505 organized a rally at City Hall on Friday, February 18th and asked the MTHA to have heritage bus #107 on display. Alan was also asked to bring the bus to the funeral, however the MTHA declined.

Events: Alan reported that he had confirmed the MTHA's attendance at the following events in 2017:

- Pony Coral August 27th
- Flashback Weekend on August 20th.
- Steinbach Heritage Parade on August 4th.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Financial Report: Alex Regiec reminded the Board that the 2017 Operating Budget had been approved at the last meeting in January.

Alex reported that MTHA has \$9,666.84 CAD cash in the bank.

Activity for the month of February amounted to \$385.53 in expenses and \$411.00 in revenue.

MOTION: Alex Regiec moved that the financial report be approved. Roger Hamelin seconded. Carried.

Other Financial: Alex reported that three corporate sponsors have indicated a desire to renew their memberships. These corporations include New Flyer Industries/Motor Coach Industries, Beaver Bus Lines and the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1505.

The ongoing funding received from members and supporters through the City of Winnipeg Employee and Retiree Charitable Fund is stable and increasing slightly.

Alex mentioned that individual membership renewal notices will be mailed out in late March or early April.

The Tax Charity Report Form will be completed and filed shortly with the Canada Revenue Agency.

Vehicle insurance is coming up for renewal in April.

Finally, Alex reported that Memorandum of Understanding between the MTHA and Canadian Transit Heritage Foundation is finalized.

David Wyatt asked two questions about the reciprocal MTHA/CTHF membership; 1. Does this create an obligation to mail our newsletter to their 200 members, or just one to their office? and 2. Will materials borrowed or used be cared for and returned in a safe manner?

MOTION: Alex regiec moved for the approval of the agreement subject to satisfactory answer to

questions. Logan Poole seconded. Carried.

MAINTENANCE STATUS:

Jim Legge and Ross Smith indicated that there was no maintenance report at this time.

Alan Brunsel reported that the MC-9 was undergoing a safety inspection at the Greyhound Canada garage.

NEW BUSINESS:

Alan Brunsel reported that Stan Holter of Richfield Bus Co. in Bloomington, Minnesota is organizing a Vintage Bus Rally to be held in Evansville, Indiana on September 22nd-24th.

Alex Regiec mentioned the Canada Day Event entitled "The Great Plains, A Train and A Bus" requires volunteers. The initial plan is to meet at Union Station where the group will catch The Canadian VIA train at 11:45 AM and arrive in Portage La Prairie at 1:20 PM. The bus will meet the group there and take them for lunch. Then the bus will return to Winnipeg via Highway #26 where the first schedule bus company operated in 1922.

Ross Smith reported on a new way to advertise the MTHA. Jim's garage in Headingley has a magnetic sign that illustrates its logo and website. The unit can be attached to an automobile. Cost is \$65.00 per unit. Everyone agreed to order 10 pairs.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on March 28th at 7:00 PM at the North Garage.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Al Brunsel moved to Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 20:00. ■



Looking back at where we went & what we did in 2016



MTHA volunteers ham it up as they prepare to display in St. Anne, Manitoba.



On display at the Sunday Night cruise at the Pony Coral Restaurant on Grant Avenue.

FAMILY MOTOR COACH ASSOCIATION MEETING

On June 16th, 2016, the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association was invited to visit the Family Motor Coach Association (FMCA).

The MTHA brought the 1956 Western Flyer Coach "Scenic Cruiser", the 1966 Western Flyer P-41 Canuck and 1983 MCI model MC-9 to the Town and Country RV Park for FMCA members and their families.

SUNDAY NIGHT CRUISE AT THE PONY CORAL

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association displayed it's fine fleet of vintage buses featured at the Pony Coral Restaurant on Grant Avenue & Wilton Street on Sunday, July 24th, 2015 from 5 PM until 10 PM.

The Sunday Night Cruise was sponsored by the Pony Corral Restaurant & Bar and thePiston Ring Company and featured antique automobiles, hot rod cars and eleven vintage transit and highway buses. Thousands of people were in attendance to take the fine display of classic vehicles.

DAWSON TRAILS DAYS IN ST. ANNE, MANITOBA

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association attended Dawson Trails Days in St. Anne, Manitoba on September 3, 2016. Held at the town's main fair grounds, the MTHA brought the 1956 Western Flyer Coach "Scenic Cruiser", the 1966 Western Flyer P-41 Canuck and the 1983 MCI model MC-9 to this event for everyone to enjoy.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1505 working together with the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association provided a vintage Transit bus and coach for display at the annual Labour Day Picnic & Walk held in Central Park on September 5th, 2016.

IN MEMORIAM

It was with great sadness that the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association lost two of its founding members, Mr. Ronald H. Alexander (Past President 1989-1997) and Mr. Bill Belcher (Past Director) in November 2016. Both gentlemen were long serving employees of Winnipeg Transit and predecessor companies, and as retirees were instrumental in the establishment of the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association in 1989. Their knowledge, dedication to historic preservation and commitment to community, among other admirable qualities, will be greatly missed. ■



Ron Alexander and Bill Belcher.

PARTNERSHIP WITH CANADIAN TRANSIT HERITAGE FOUNDATION

On March 18, 2017 the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Canadian Transit Heritage Foundation, a federally incorporated non-profit association whose mission is to be the voice and resource for Canada's transit heritage. The intent is to complement the activities of both organizations and develop opportunities to work together to enhance the quality and value of member services.

GREY CUP TICKET WINNERS

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association (MTHA) held a 2016 Grey Cup Ticket Pool. There were 11 winning tickets, with 10 score and quarter score winners and one Final score winner for the big \$1,000 prize.

The winners were Brian Hogue, Dennis Gerbrant, Tim Kork, Gerry Pearson, Greg Bauman, Jeff Delaney, Wally Melnyk, Armando, Greg Bauman, K. Brownlee, and Bob Cooper. Thank you for your support!



WILLIAM A. LUKE, JOURNALIST & BUS HISTORIAN

Travelling back through time with Bill Luke's great photography collection



Bill Luke

William A. (Bill) Luke has been involved in the bus industry for entire life. He grew up in northern Minnesota and began his career working for the Jefferson Transportation Company (now Jefferson Lines) based in Minneapolis.

After 20 years at Jefferson, Bill moved to Spokane, Washington to become the assistant manager of Empire Lines. He has also served as a transit commissioner for the City of Spokane.

Together with his wife, Adelene, Bill establish *Bus Ride* magazine in 1965, which has become the prominent trade journal of the bus industry. Bill has travelled extensively across the United States, Canada and 70 countries around the world exploring, learning and writing about bus transportation.

The Luke's sold the publication in 1996, however Bill continues to travel, serve as a consultant and write. He is the author of numerous books about

the bus industry and its history.

Bill has graciously shared many of his fine photographs with the MTHA. Once again it gives us great pleasure to offer you a look at a third group of his pictures. Included in this issue are prints of Winnipeg Transit and the Saskatchewan Transportation Company after the recent announcement by the Government of Saskatchewan of the complete shut down of the crown corporation on May 31, 2017. ■



STC #541, a 1960 Western Flyer P37 Canuck.



STC #851, a 1964 Western Flyer Canuck 500 seen in Regina, Saskatchewan.



STC #307, a 1989 Eagle Coach model 20 seen at the factory in Brownsville, Texas.



STC #734, a 1984 MC-9.

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Bill Luke's pictorial history of Winnipeg Transit



Metro Transit #1662, a 1947 CanCar-Brill model T44.



Metro Transit's #554, a 1960 CanCar "Box Car".

Winnipeg's Transit System has featured many different types of bus models from various manufacturers including Canadian Car Foundry, General Motors, and Orion Bus Industries.

Since the late 1940s, Bill Luke has been able to document most of the buses used in Winnipeg over the years.



Metro Transit #127, a 1962 General Motors model TDH4517.



Metro Transit #449, a 1954 Fxible-Twin Coach FT2D-40.



A 1988 MCI TC40102N "Classic" operating westbound on Portage Avenue.



Winnipeg Transit #971, an Ontario Bus Industries model Orion 01.504

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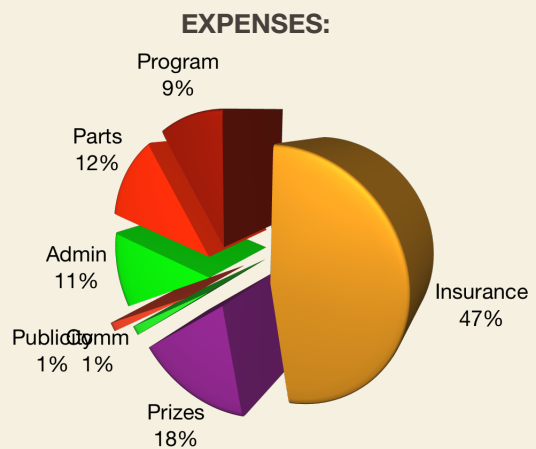
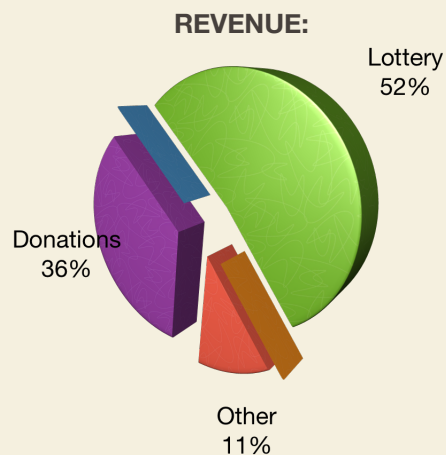


2016 Annual Financial Report

UNAUDITED 2016 STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE MANITOBA TRANSIT HERITAGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Description	Dollars
REVENUE	
Donations (ERCF Transfer, Farebox, Program & Corporate)	\$4,119.00
Grants	\$0.00
Gaming & Raffle (50/50 Lottery)	\$5,898.00
Interest	\$0.44
Other Revenue (Membership Fees, Calendar Sales)	\$1,267.66
Total Revenues	\$11,285.10
EXPENSES	
Administration (Post Office Box, Stationary, Office Equipment & Professional Services)	\$815.05
Rent - Storage	\$0.00
Insurance (D&O, SRI and Storage, Vehicle License)	\$5,910.36
Communications (Internet & Phone)	\$176.14
Equipment, Materials & Parts	\$925.62
Lottery Prizes	\$2,250.00
Artifacts, Preservation & Maintenance	\$85.00
Programming (Vehicle License, Fuel, Driver Stipend, Volunteer Meals, Advertising)	\$1,158.21
Publicity	\$170.45
Total Expenses	\$11,490.83
Surplus/Deficit	-\$205.73

NOTE: Cash in the Bank was \$10,343.71 as at 31 December 2016.





2016 Annual Financial Report

NON-CASH ASSETS

SUMMARY OF VEHICLES & MEMORABILIA OWNED IN 2016 BY THE MTHA

Description	Value	Status	Original Owner(s)
VEHICLES			
1936 Twin Coach 23R (95582) Bus 111	\$50,000.00	Operable	Winnipeg Electric Company
1936 Dodge/Lawrie (4024R9) Bus 501	\$500.00	Unrestored	Winnipeg Electric Company
1941 Twin Coach 30GS (108770) Bus 214	\$5,000.00	Partial Restore	Winnipeg Electric Company
1946 Ford Transit 69-B (66116X) Bus 565	\$5,000.00	Partial Restore	Winnipeg Electric Company
1947 CCF-Brill C-36 (CCB-CD36-47-2329) Bus 707	\$500.00	Storage Shed	Winnipeg Electric Company
1950 CCF-Brill T-48A (8151) Bus 1758	\$500.00	Partial Restore	Winnipeg Electric Company
1954 GMC TDH-4801 (TDH4801-249) Bus 200	\$20,000.00	Operable	Los Angeles Municipal Transit Co. & City of Regina, Saskatchewan
1956 Western Flyer T36-2L (MBPGSIN6458) Bus 20	\$196,000.00	Operable	Grey Goose Bus Lines/New Flyer
1958 Western Flyer T38/40 (RD115412) Bus 75	\$107,000.00	Operable	RCAF/New Flyer Industries
1963 GMC SDM-4517 (C006) Bus 33	\$5,000.00	Unoperable	Beaver Bus Lines
**1964 Western Flyer P-41 Canuck (3966) Bus 111	\$50,000.00	Operable	Northern Bus Lines
1971 GM T6H-4521A (T6H4521814) Bus 751	\$5,000.00	Operable	Metropolitan Winnipeg "Metro" Transit
1980 Orion 01.501 (90810167) Bus 651	\$5,000.00	Operable	VLS Prairie Dog Central
1984 Flyer D901A (D102403025) Bus 107	\$5,000.00	Operable	Winnipeg Transit
**1984 MCI MC-9 (1M89CM6A9DP038668) Bus 112	\$25,000.00	Operable	Northern Bus Lines
PARTS			
Bus Parts	\$60,000.00		
ARTIFACTS			
Uniforms, Badges, Passes, Tickets, Manuals & Pictures	\$50,000.00		
Total Equity Value	\$589,500.00		

NOTES:

- Vehicles highlighted in light orange indicate fully operational as of January 1st, 2017.
 - Vehicles identified in light blue have been partially restored but are not yet operational.
 - Vehicles in white are unrestored and will be re-assessed for historical value or scrapped.
- ** Bus donated by Northern Bus Lines in July 2015 to MTHA collection.



NOTICE

2017 MTHA Annual General Meeting & Bar-B-Que

North Garage 1520 Main Street at 2 PM

Parking is located on-street and transit access by Route 18 North Main-Corydon.

The business meeting should take about one hour, afterwhich complimentary food and refreshments will be served.

The Board of Directors encourages all members and volunteers to attend. All members are entitled to vote.

We look forward to your attendance.

This notice issued by order of the Board, March 28, 2017.

Ross Smith
Secretary
Manitoba Transit Heritage Association, Inc.

VINTAGE BUS RALLY

Evansville, Indiana

September 22 - 24, 2017



The event welcomes all vintage buses and converted motor homes regardless of make or model, that were originally manufactured by a bus builder

- Vintage Bus Rides
- Bus related swap meet
- Awards in each category
- Rally lunch with speakers
- Vintage bus parade
- Food vendors on-site
- Host Hotels nearby
- Event T-Shirts & souvenirs

Photo opps at the restored Greyhound depot



Busboys Collection



www.busboyscollection.org



DON'T MISS THE BUS!



PHOTO MEMORY FROM THE ARCHIVE



This wonderful photograph comes to the MTHA courtesy of the Peter A. Cox collection.

The late Peter A. Cox of Edmonton, Alberta was a friend and supporter of the MTHA and we are grateful that he shared many wonderful pictures from his collection with us, many of which have appeared in our annual Transit Calendars over the past few years.

In remembrance of Peter, we share his picture of Beaver Bus Lines Limited #44 taken in Jasper, Alberta on June 19, 1984.

This coach was a 1980 Motor Coach Industries model MC-9 powered by a Detroit Diesel 8V71N engine.