

Welcome to another issue of the Green Pennant Special. It is through this newsletter that we endeavor to keep this membership informed on happenings in the organization and the transit industry.

Special Edition

We are proud to present you with this special summer edition of the Green Pennant. Also we thank all members who provide us with articles to publish.

September Meeting

The first meeting after our summer recess will be Labor Day weekend, Friday September 3, 1999. Long time member Dave Wilson will present us with an interesting meeting, like always. The meeting will be held on Friday May 7, 1999 at the Welles Park Fieldhouse, 2333 W. Sunnyside at 6:30 p.m.

Happenings

On **Sunday, August 1, 1999** the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, Illinois will hold its annual Vintage Transport Extravaganza. Antique autos, trucks, fire trucks, and buses will be on display. As for the buses, CTA, Pace, Downers Grove, Huskie Lines & others will display equipment. So come on out and make a day of it!

Trips

A couple of dates to mark on your calander:

Sunday, September 12, 1999 There will be a fantrip in Milwaukee, Wisconsin aboard one of their GMC "Fishbowls." This will be a good opportunity to come out and ride, for this will be the last Fantrip on one, for with their next order of New Flyers coming into service their days are numbered. Details will be available at the September OSA meeting.

Saturday, September 25, 1999 OSA will have a trip to Champaign-Urbana, Illinois. We will have a Downers Grove Gillig for the trip down and back. Pick-ups will be made in downtown Chicago. Details can be obtained at the September OSA meeting.



Milwaukee TDH 5303 #2007

Pace

Pace has new leadership and a new mission: to shed its image as an operator of empty buses going nowhere. The suburban bus service is taking a new direction, looking to scale back its fixed-route system in favor of more flexible vanpooling and commuter services. Pace's new executive director and new board chairman are working on a plan to change the way the transit agency spends its \$114 million budget, a first step towards this: fundamental shift in service. While Pace will continue to run its most popular fixed routes, it is exploring ways to phase out less-traveled lines and devote more resources to its successful van-pool and special-event programs. In the next few years, Pace is expected to become more of a home-to-work commuter service and less of an all-day transit provider. (Crain's Chicago Business)

Pace's top administrator says that the suburban bus agency still needs a new headquarters. "My feeling is we have to be more accessible from the public transit viewpoint, said T. J. Ross. "Disabled riders have complained that it is tough getting to Pace's headquarters. We needed to be someplace where there were more buses, more Metra, more L, more something." That is why he looked around Rosemont, with its proximity to O'Hare Airport and CTA buses and trains, and towns such as Des Plaines and Melrose Park, where Pace has Garages, Ross Said. The search hasn't been fruitful. Land prices,

especially in Rosemont, and availability have been prohibitive. The current headquarters, which is over 35 years old, is inadequate and may have structural problems. (Chicago Sun Times)

CTA

CTA Blue Line riders can now board/ alight from the newly reopened Grand/Milwaukee subway station. After being closed for about 7 years, CTA reopened it, improving the facilities by upgrading lighting, inserting automatic fare collection equipment and painting the place up. Also the station will have 24 four service, as compared to previous- no night, weekend service. This will make the commute to Navy Pier and the ever-expanding community around the station much more convenient.

Do you hold the lucky numbers?

Through September 25th, CTA is running a contest, Take it and win, where if your Transit card serial number is chosen (after registering it) you win a prize. More information is available at CTA's web page: <http://www.transitchicago.com>



Kenosha Transit GMC Fishbowl #504, Kenosha ,IL



Cook County Sheriff Bus 6355 seen here across the street from the Cog Hill Golf Course in Lemont, IL



Owner: Shoup Buses, Middlebury, Indiana

Fleet Number: 112

Body Make: Yellow Coach (1935)

Note: This coach is owned by Shoup Buses, which is affiliated with Tri-State Coaches, United Limo and Cardinal Coaches. It is believed this bus was owned by Peerless Stages in California.