



SUMMER MEETING

AND

ROADEO

2017



August 4 - 7, 2017

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ROADEO AGENDA

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 4TH

- 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM** Driver Registration & Photo
(also Summer Meeting Attendees)
[Trade & Transit Centre II, Michael Ross Event Center]
- 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM** Mandatory Driver Passenger Assistance & Securement Training Option #1
[Near Registration Area]
- 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM** Opening Reception
[Trade & Transit Centre II, Michael Ross Event Center]
- 6:30 PM** Williamsport First Friday
(Williamsport is quickly becoming a historical and cultural center for the arts. On the First Friday of every month, businesses keep their doors open late to host local artists, bands, and art events of all kinds)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5TH

- 7:30 AM – 10:00 AM** Breakfast Buffet (For all PPTA Guests)
[Holiday Inn, Library Room]
- 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM** Driver Registration & Photo
[Trade & Transit Centre II, Michael Ross Event Center]
- 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM** Mandatory Driver Passenger Assistance & Securement Training Option #2
[Near Registration Area]
- 9:30 AM – 10:00 AM** Mandatory Drivers Meeting
[Trade & Transit Centre II, Michael Ross Event Center]
- 10:00 AM** Mandatory Competition [Transit Drive]
Driver Written Testing (Paratransit)
[Michael Ross Event Center]
Pre-Trip Fixed Route and Paratransit
[Transit Drive]
Wheelchair Securement Fixed Route and Paratransit [Transit Drive]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5TH (CONTINUED)

- 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM** Lunch [Midtown Plaza on Transit Drive]
(Drivers & Committee Only)
- AFTERNOON** Mandatory Driver Training Classes
[Michael Ross Event Center]
- 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM** Summer Meeting Attendee Registration
(Non-Driver) [Holiday Inn, Gallery Room]
- 3:30 PM- 4:00 PM** Mandatory Judges Meeting
[Holiday Inn, Gallery Room]
- 4:30 PM- 6:00 PM** Depart from Holiday Inn
(Pine Street Entrance) for the Hiawatha
Paddle Wheel Riverboat
- 6:00 PM** Depart from Holiday Inn
(Pine Street Entrance) to Crosscutter
Baseball Game and Dinner
(For those not participating in the Hiawatha Paddle
Wheel Riverboat)
- 7:30 PM** First Shuttle Returns to Holiday Inn
from baseball game

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6TH

- 6:00 AM** 1st Shuttle Departs from Holiday Inn
(Pine Street Entrance) for the ROADEO
- 7:00 AM** Mandatory Driver Check-In &
Continental Breakfast [Airport]
- 7:30 AM** Driver Walk-thru & Judges Check-In [Airport]
- 8:00 AM** Rodeo Begins
- AFTERNOON** Awards Luncheon [Airport]

2017 PARATRANSIT DRIVERS

Allen “Rover Man” Armstrong

Rover Community Transportation

Allen resides in Kennett Square, PA with his wife Mary. They have two children and two grandchildren. He has been a bus operator for 2 years and drives a 14-passenger paratransit bus. This will be his first State Rodeo. He recently completed the Smith System Advanced Driver Trainer Course. Allen says, “I’ve never competed before and am looking forward to it. I am semi-retired but find myself working more and more. I just love driving and love working for Rover Community Transit more than anything else I’ve ever done.”

Denise Babbitt

Suburban Transit/Easton Coach

Denise resides in Norristown, PA with her husband Dave. They have two pets; a dog named Xena and a cat named Jynx. She has been a bus operator for 1 ½ years; she operates the Body on Chassis. She was honored to be the recipient of the TransNet Outstanding Employee Award. This will be her first State Rodeo. Denise loves meeting people and helping others. She feels because she loves to drive; paratransit fits her perfectly. In her downtime, she enjoys arts & crafts and reading.

Jeffrey Cook

Suburban Transit Network, Inc./BuxMont

Jeff resides in Warminster with his daughter Alexis. He has been a bus operator just over a year and operates the Ford Cutaway. Jeff says, “I am a single dad of a beautiful girl, Alexis. I grew up in this area and just moved back after retiring from the Army after 20+ years. I am very excited to attend and compete in my first rodeo. The best driving experience that I have had is when one of my youngest client was heading my way, she pointed my bus out to her substitute nurse. That brought a smile to my face.”

Justin Cross-

First Transit

Justin resides in Washington, PA with his wife Amanda. Justin says “I feel honored and excited to be competing in my first rodeo. I have been with First Transit for almost 2 years and really like my job.”

James Downam

Suburban Transit/Easton Coach

James resides in Norristown, PA with his wife Karen. He has been a bus operator for 7 years. This is his 7th state rodeo. In 2016 James was the recipient for the 2015 PPTA’s Outstanding Public Transportation Department Employee award. James says, “I am a retired Marine for over 7 years. Helping others less fortunate brings me the greatest joy. I find every day an interesting experience dealing with consumers. I am proud to say I have been married for over 20 years and we have a wonderful son Christopher.”

James “Jim” Fouse- **Blair Senior Services**

Jim resides in Altoona, PA with his wife Barbara. They have 3 children. He has been an operator for 8 years. This is his first roadeo. In 2015, he was the recipient of the ‘Santa John Tobey Award’. Jim says, “I am 66 years old. I like working with seniors because they have a lot of information about life. I am honored to be chosen to compete in the roadeo and really looking forward to it. I would have to say, driving in the winter time is very interesting.”

Damon “Daye” Harris **First Transit**

Daye resides in Pittsburgh with Melony and their 2 children. He has been an operator for 11 years and normally operates the Lift Van. He has participated in 4 State Rodeos. He earned the ‘10 Year Service Award’. Daye is an 11-year veteran with First Transit. He feels the enjoyment of competing in roades is showcasing his diligence and pride in his job. He also enjoys talking with fellow drivers from different cities. He feels the best part of his job is all of the interesting people he gets to meet.

Danielle “DJ” Johns **Suburban Transit Network, Inc./Tri County**

DJ resides in Schwenksville, PA with her husband Chad and their two children. DJ says “I have been in paratransit for 3 years. I started as a vehicle aide then moved into driving. My current positions are driver and dispatcher. Last year was such a great time, I decided to compete for again. This year I know what to expect, so I am really looking forward to it. One of the most rewarding aspects of my job is getting to know the people. It’s always nice when someone I haven’t seen in a while smiles and tells me they missed me as their driver. I enjoy the challenges of my job. Every day seems to have a new problem to solve.”

Joseph “Joe” McDaniel **MV Transportation/Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority**

Joe resides in Philadelphia, PA with his wife Latrese Hill. He has been a bus operator for 20 years and normally operates the cutaway. He has participated in 1 State Rodeo and 1 National Rodeo. He has achieved 12 awards including the Driver of the Year Award. Joe says “Doing my job, which is helping my customers get to and from their house, has been a great pleasure for me over the past 20 years. I have won several awards and in 2015 I was honored for Driver of the Year. Last year was the first time I competed. It was fun, and I had a great time.”

Mekia Murrey **Rover Community Transportation**

Mekia resides in West Chester, PA. She has been an operator for 2 years and normally operates a 14-passenger paratransit bus. Mekia says, “I am a mother of two. I enjoy reading and watching movies. I am honored to be chosen to participate in the roadeo. Seeing the beauty that is in Chester County, PA has been the best experience. I enjoy my passengers and co-workers.”

James Perkins

Rover Community Transportation

James resides in Morgantown, PA with his wife Emily and their daughter Grace. He has been an operator for 4 years and normally drives a 14-passenger paratransit bus. This will be his first time participating in a State Roadeo. James says, "I am thrilled to be part of the PPTA 2017 State Roadeo representing Rover Community Transportation. I have had too many interesting experiences to list. Every day is a new, exciting journey where I meet interesting and wonderful people. I truly love my job and the people I work with."

Monica Pope

Suburban Transit Network, Inc./Tri County

Monica resides in Philadelphia, PA. She has 3 children and 4 grandchildren. She has been an operator for almost 5 years and normally operates the Ford Cutaway. She received employee of the month in 2015 & 2016. Monica says "This is my 1st roadeo and I feel privileged to be part of this event. Its seems to be a fun and friendly competition. I look forward to being a part of it. The most interesting experience happened the last day of summer camp. A little boy told everyone how much he enjoyed the bus ride and the other people on the bus. It was quite touching and heartwarming. These things are part of the reason why I love my job in addition to the people I meet along the way."

Jaime Roman

MV Transportation/Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority

Jaime resides in Philadelphia with his wife Carmen. He has been an operator for 16 years and normally drives the cutaway. He received the 2016 LYTX (Drive Cam) National Driver of the Year Award. This will be his first State Roadeo. Jaime says, "During my career I have received 43 awards and recognition for my commitment to safety. I take pride in my customers confidence that they will arrive at their destination safely."

Sean Tompkins

County of Lackawanna Transit System

Sean resides in Clarks Summit, PA with Sandy and their daughter Shea. He has been a bus operator for 20 years. This will be his 2nd State Roadeo. Sean is a Master Spinn Instructor/Fitness Trainer. While driving, he enjoys providing excellent service, dignity and respect to all of his passenger as he safely delivers them to their correct location.

Ray Van Guilder

Crawford Area Transportation Authority

Ray resides in Meadville, PA. He has been an operator for 5 years and normally operates the 20-passenger vehicle. This will be his first time participating in the State Roadeo. Ray says, "I am really looking forward to attending the roadeo. I really enjoy each client we pick up because everyone has a different story."

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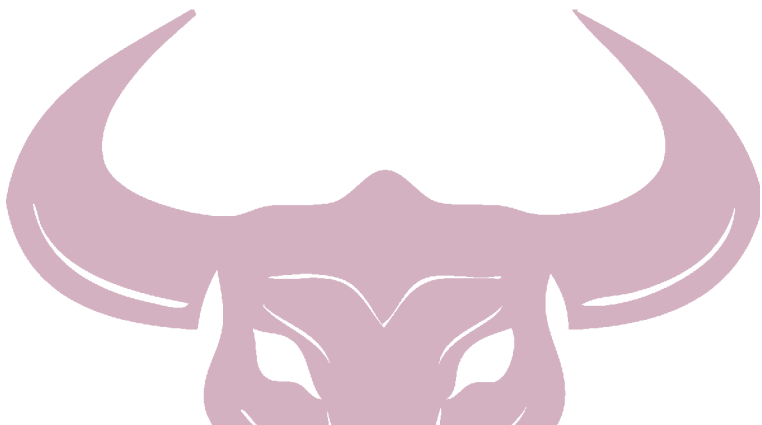
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StarTrans Candidate

PCID 112221: 21'

Ford E350

6.8L V10 Gas Engine



StarTrans Senator HD

PCID 1152: 27'

PCID 1153: 29' + 31'

Ford F550 / 6.8L V10 Gas

Diesel + CNG Options



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PCID 1130LF: 23' + 25'

Low Floor Chevy G4500

6.0L V8 Gas Engine



Transit Works

PCID 1154: 21'

Ford T150

3.7L V6 Gas Engine

3.5L V6 Diesel Option

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2017 FIXED ROUTE PARTICIPANTS

Ricardo Cancel

rabbitransit

Ricardo resides in York, PA with his wife Sheila LaBoy. They have 4 children. He has been a bus operator for 30 years; the past 6 with rabbitransit. He operates the 30' and the 40' bus. Over the years he has achieved the Safety Award and the 2010 Customer Choice Award. He has participated in 5 State Rodeos. Ricardo says "I love to drive and once a year at the Rodeo I get to see fellow operators."

Gregory Czyzyk

County of Lackawanna Transit System

Greg resides in Scranton, PA with his wife Christina and 4 children. He has been a bus operator for 8 years. He drives the Gillig 35. This will be his first rodeo. Greg says, "I have a beautiful wife and 4 awesome children. I am excited for the opportunity to be competing in this rodeo and use my driving skills to the best ability I can. My most interesting driving experience was when I met an amazing woman on a trip. I knew she would soon be my wife and 17 months later she was. I enjoy working for COLTS and my Co-workers. The job has its ups and downs but I take the good with the bad and strive to do my best every day."

Rex Fleming

Centre Area Transit Authority

Rex resides in State College, PA with his wife Georgia. They have 3 children and 13 grandchildren. He has been a bus operator for 17 ½ years. He operates the 40' Excelsior. He has participated in two State Rodeos. Rex says, "I am a Vietnam Veteran of 15 years. I was born and raised in Clarion County. I enjoy hunting, fishing and golf. I am a former truck driver. I like being able to help people. I enjoy meeting new people that ride the bus."

James Floyd

MV Transportation/Mid-Mon Valley Transit Authority

James resides in Monessen, PA. He has been a bus operator for almost 12 years. He operates the 40' Gillig. This is his first State Rodeo.

James "Jamie" Gilbert

River Valley Transit

Jamie resides in Williamsport PA with his wife Julie and their 3 children. He has been an operator for 2 years and normally operates the Chevrolet-4500 & Ford E-450. This will be his first State Rodeo. Jim says "I am honored to represent RVT and I hope to do my best."

Joseph Granahan

Luzerne County Transportation Authority

Joe resides in Larksville, PA with his wife Barbara Jean. They have 2 children. He has been a bus operator for 10 years. This is his first State Rodeo. He enjoys hunting, fishing and camping with his family. He enjoys driving and getting to know the passengers on his route.

Percy Hagenbuch

Centre Area Transit Authority

Percy resides in State College, PA with his wife Melissa. They have one daughter Emily. He has been a bus operator for the past 18 years. He operates the New Flyer & Gillig. He has participated in 8 State Rodeos and 1 national rodeo. He has taken 2nd place once and 3rd place once in the State Rodeos. Percy says, "I'm an easy-going guy and I don't sweat the small stuff. I love to participate in the rodeos because you meet drivers from all over the state and you find out you aren't alone. My passengers make my job very interesting; every day is different even though I do the same thing."

Walter Hillard

Capital Area Transit

He resides in Harrisburg, PA. He has 3 children and 9 grandchildren. He has been a bus operator for 49 years. He operates a Gillig. This will be his first State Rodeo.

William "Dale" Holland

Altoona Metro Transit

Dale resides in Altoona, PA with his wife Jayne. They have one son. He has been a Gillig bus operator for 41 years. He has participated in 24 PPTA State rodeos and 7 APTA rodeos. He placed 1st place 3 times; 2nd place 2 times and 3rd place 5 times in the State Rodeos. Dale says "Every day is a new experience."

Justin Holt

River Valley Transit

Justin resides in Williamsport, PA with his wife Stacy and their 3 Children. He has been a Gillig bus operator for the past 8 years. He has participated in 5 State rodeos and 1 National. He has achieved the Safe Driver Award from NSC two times and in 2015 he was River Valley Transit's Driver of the year.

Coleen Horst

Luzerne County Transportation Authority

Coleen resides in Forty-Fort, PA. She has 2 children and 2 grandchildren on their way. She has been a bus operator for 28 years and operates the Gillig Bus. This will be her first State Rodeo. Coleen says, "I love having a route where I get to know the passengers on a personal level. It is gratifying knowing that they rely on me to get them to work on time and home safely. My favorite passengers are the children and the elderly; but really love everyone. I love my job."

Sean Kiper

River Valley Transit

Sean resides in Williamsport with his wife Barbara. They have 14 grandchildren. He has been an operator for 3 ½ years. He operates Gillig and New Flyer buses. This will be his first State Rodeo. Sean says, "I like hiking, biking, and kayaking. I also like to brew beer in my spare time. This will be my first a rodeo and I am very competitive. Driving through an ice storm and having the bus sideways on the highway was one of my most interesting experiences driving. I like driving because I get to meet new people and am fortunate enough to have gained a few friends."

Marcelo Motta

County of Lackawanna Transit System

Marcelo resides in Scranton, PA and has 3 children. He has been a Gillig bus operator for 7 years. Marcelo says, "This is my second State Rodeo and I am excited to have fun and compete."

Randall "Randy" Norris

rabbittransit

Randy resides in York, PA with his wife Esther; he has 3 children and 1 grandchild. He has been a Gillig bus operator for 36 years. He has participated in several State Rodeos and twice in the National Rodeo. He has earned "Driver of the Year" award and several "Safety" awards numerous times. Randy says, "While I consider it a challenge on a day-to-day basis being a bus operator, I solely dedicate my entire life to perform my task as a good driver in the company. I felt so fantastic and honored of given opportunities to compete in the State Rodeos. In addition to that, meeting different drivers from different companies is a wonderful experience."

Carl Porter

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority

Carl resides in Philadelphia with his wife Anisa Ford-Porter. They have 3 children. He has been a bus operator for 30 years and operates the Nova Bus. He has participated in 2 State Rodeos. Carl says, "I have been very blessed in my life and rewarded with a caring family, good friends and good health. I enjoy the challenge and competition and look forward to competing in the rodeos for the remainder of my service career."

Ronni Shuler

First Transit

Ronni resides in Burgettstown, PA with her husband Jason. They have 2 children. She has been a bus operator for 7 years. She operates the 72 passenger Conventional School bus and paratransit. This will be her first State Rodeo. Ronni says "I was a stay at home mom who needed something to do. So, I decided to start driving school bus in 2010 and I have wanted to participate in the rodeo ever since. I enjoy working with the elderly."

John Sorrentino

Lehigh and Northampton Transit Authority

John resides in Coplay, PA with his wife Nina. He has been a bus operator for 9 years and operates the 40ft/35ft New Flyer & Gillig bus. This will be his first State Rodeo. John says "I'm excited to be in the rodeo. I hope to be just as good as drivers that have competed in the past. I have been with LANTA for 9 years and enjoy my job and my great co-workers."

Victor Tarver

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority

Victor resides in Philadelphia, PA with his wife Crystal. They have one daughter and one granddaughter. He has been a bus operator for 34 years and operates the 40' New Flyer bus. He has participated in 8 State roadeos; 2 National roadeos. He has achieved both the Safety and GM Customer Service Awards. Victor says "I find the job a daily challenge, yet enjoyable and satisfying. Most of all I enjoy providing safe courteous and professional service to our riders. I respect the professionalism of my co-workers demonstrated daily and love each roadeo competition."

Andre Waters

Luzerne County Transportation Authority

Andre resides in Miners Mill, PA. He has 4 children and 1 grandchild. He has been a bus operator for 7 years and operates the transit bus. This will be his first State Roadeo. He enjoys meeting new people and interacting with the passengers every day.

Richard "Rick" Young

MV Transportation/Mid-Mon Valley Transit Authority

Rick resides in Uniontown, PA with his daughter Gracie. He has been a bus operator for 10 years and operates the 40' Gillig. This will be his first State Roadeo. Rick says, "I am a family man. I spend most of my time after work with my daughter. This will be my first roadeo. This will be a good experience to find out if I am a safe and secure driver. This the easiest job I ever had. I enjoy the different people I meet on my route."



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and Paratransit **[Transit Drive]**

SUMMER CONFERENCE AGENDA

continued...

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- 7:00 AM** Mandatory Driver Check-In &
Continental Breakfast [Airport]
- 7:30 AM** Driver Walk-thru & Judges Check-In
- 8:00 AM** Rodeo Begins
- AFTERNOON** Award Luncheon [Airport]
- 2:45 PM – 3:45 PM** Maintenance Presentations
[Holiday Inn, Ballroom]

- 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM** Board Meeting [Holiday Inn, Gallery Room]
- 6:00 PM** Shuttle Departs from Holiday Inn (Pine Street Entrance) for Peter Herdic Transportation Museum (Clam Bake & Bocce Ball)
- 7:30 PM** First Shuttle back to Holiday Inn

MONDAY, AUGUST 7TH

- 8:00 AM – 9:15 AM** Shuttle Departs from Holiday Inn (Pine Street Entrance) for the tour of River Valley Transit CNG Facility
- 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM** Membership Breakfast
[Trade & Transit Centre II, Michael Ross Event Center]
- 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM** Shuttle Departs from Holiday Inn (Pine Street Entrance) for the Tour of Little League Baseball

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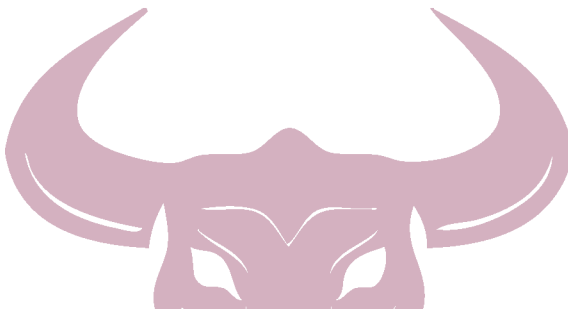
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**A BIG thank you to the team at River Valley Transit
for hosting the 2017 Roadeo**



**Thank you to the staff of the
2017 Roadeo Facility**



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