



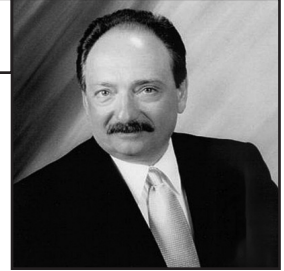
HEADWAY

A PUBLICATION OF THE TRANSIT MANAGERIAL BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 2017

WEB: WWW.MTATMBA.ORG • E-MAIL: MTATMBA@AOL.COM

PRESIDENT MESSAGE BY MICHAEL J. LANDI



Let me apologize for the long time between newsletters. There has been a load of issues going on since the last newsletter. In December, NYCT President Veronique Hakim attended our meeting and spoke to the membership, she acknowledged that she was aware of the problems and issues we managers have been experiencing. During her Q&A she informed the membership that she would continue to communicate with our Executive Board. I was glad to see so many of our members in attendance to welcome her.

After many meetings with the MTA regarding the MTA Bus managers pension, I, and our attorney Stuart Salles are happy to finally announce that an agreement between the MTA and the TMBA has officially been reached and the MTA Board approved the pension plan. I must thank Stu for his dedication and hard work, for the long hours and days working on the pension plan. I am also happy to announce that our efforts have paid off, and effective July 1, 2017, there will be a 2% salary adjustment for all Managerial, Confidential Secretaries and Non-Represented Career & Salary Employees. Please obtain the July 11, 2017 memo from Patricia A. Lodge, Vice President Human Resources.

It is our understanding that Human Resources this year issued new Managerial Performance Review (MPR) guidelines. The new forms can be obtained on TENS. We suggest our members make sure their MPR is current and that you are on target to achieve your goals.

We also understand, that there may have been a letter going around suggesting that our members contact the TMBA Executive Board or Members of the Council by utilizing MTA-NYCT email and phones. All TMBA members are reminded that you must refrain from utilizing MTA email and telephones for other than transit business. If you need to communicate with the TMBA, use your personal e-mail or telephone to call us.

The "Additional Member Contribution Refund Bill" passed in Albany was signed into law by Governor Cuomo. For information on receiving your "Additional Member Contribution Refund," I suggest you call, or visit, your respective pension plan representative. However, NYCERS is dragging its feet in complying with the law. We are attempting to rectify the problem.

Speaking of NYCERS, there will be a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) this September for retirees age 62 or older and retired for five or more years. The adjustment equals 1.2% for a maximum annual increase of \$216.00, or \$18.00 per month before taxes. The adjustment is applied up to the first \$18,000 of your Single Life Allowance.

At our June meeting, we accepted nominations for Council Member. Those wishing to serve as council member had to be a TMBA member only, and had to be nominated and seconded by a member from that candidates' section. Council Members serve a term of three years.

As per the Camp Lejeune Historic Drinking Water Program-The Department of Veterans Affairs finalized a new rule on 13 January to consider eight diseases as presumptive for service connection. This service connection provides VA disability benefits for veterans who have one of eight

diseases and served for 30 days or longer (consecutive or nonconsecutive) on permanent or temporary duty at camp Lejeune, NC between 1 August 1953 and 31 December 1987. The eight

diseases covered under the new rule are: adult leukemia; aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes; bladder cancer; kidney cancer; liver cancer; multiple myeloma; non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; and Parkinson's disease. Contact the Veterans Affairs at www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune/ or call (877)-222-8387 (healthcare), or (800)- 827-1000 (Benefits) for more information. The Marine Corps is working to identify and notify individuals who may have been exposed to the chemicals in the drinking water. For more information go to www.marines.mil/clwater or contact the Camp Lejeune historic drinking Water Call center at (877)- 261-9782, or emailclwater@usmc.mil.

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, 2017, voters in New York State may be asked to vote to see if a convention be convened to revise and Amend the New York State Constitution. Two items affecting civil service retirees and future retirees. (1)-Pensions cannot be diminished; (2)- Civil Service Pensions are exempt from New York State Income Tax. A change in the constitution could change or eliminate these provisions. We are encouraging our members living and voting in New York State to "VOTE NO" on any changes to the Constitution affecting Civil Service employees, retiree's, or their beneficiaries.

If you are a NYC Transit or MaBSTOA Manager contemplating retirement, contact Mr. Frank DeSimone at (917)-859-6843 to set up an appointment with Mr. Norman Rosenfeld. Unfortunately, Mr. Rosenfeld does not advise on MTA Bus Pensions or MTA HQ Pensions. We are working on information for the MTA Bus Company Managers and hope to provide help with their retirement options in the future.

Our annual award dinner will be held on Friday, the 3rd of November. This year's award recipients will be Edwin (Eddie) Melendez who will be awarded our "Manager of the Year Award," Department of Buses and Frank Jezycki, Vice President/Chief Maintenance Officer, Division of Car Equipment who will be awarded "Manager of the Year Award," Department of Subways. We look forward to seeing all our members in attendance to honor our awardees.

The following were the winners in our yearly scholarship program-

First Place- Winner is Matthew J. Mullen. Son of William Mullen, Department of Buses.

Second Place- Winner is Reshma Paul. Daughter of Elcho Paul, Department of Buses.

Third Place- Winner is Brigid McDonnell. Daughter of Richard McDonnell, Operation Planning.

Their awards will be presented at our yearly award dinner in November.

I want to congratulate all the applicants who participated this year.

(continued on reverse)

Congratulations to our Attorney Stuart Salles. On May 25th, Stu received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine.

Congratulations to Loretta Casanova, John Gaul, Joseph Rusotti, Tom Charles, Richard Di Puma, and Wayne Weisbecker on their retirement. We wish them a long, healthy, and prosperous retirement. If you know of anyone retiring, or being promoted, please send the information to us at our PO Box or our email address and we will place their names in the newsletter.

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Thomas E. Diana, father of Thomas J. Diana. Thomas E. Diana was a 36-year veteran of NYCT retiring as Vice President, Special Projects. His last special project was the construction of 130 Livingston Street. He was a founding father of the Managerial Employees Association (MEA). He was a member and served as an adviser to the TMBA. He was a founding father of the Columbia Association NYCT, served on the board of the Italian Charities of America, was a member of the Board of Directors Emeritus of the New York Municipal Credit Union, board member of the Queens Center for Progress (Queens Cerebral Palsy), and a member of the Transportation and Construction Industries March of Dimes Fundraising Committee. As the article in the Chief-Leader so adequately put it, Tom was, "the quite man who got things done." Our prayers

and thoughts go out to his wife Patricia and the Diana family.

It is also with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Arleen Gozman. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Gozman families.

Anyone interested in signing up or renewing their BJ's Wholesale Club membership, Mr. Peter Laddomada, Corporate Sales Representative, will be at our September 7th meeting. Stop by and see him.

RETIREES CORNER

This is a reminder that it's time to renew your 2018 retirees' membership. TMBA is now collecting dues for 2018 from the retiree's. We asked that you mail your dues from August to the end of September in order to continue your membership with us. Dues for 2018 are \$35. This is the final notice for dues. In the event we do not receive your dues by end of September, your membership will be cancelled for 2018. If you are not sure your dues are up to date, e-mail us at: mtatmba@aol.com

Thank you for your continued support in our retirees Group.

"Dues are not tax deductible"

Transit Managerial Benevolent Association
Cordially Invites You to Attend Our General Membership Meeting

Thursday, September 7, 2017 at Ricardo's by the Bridge
Guest Speaker: Liz Spinowitz, Union Benefit Planners

21-01 24th Avenue, Astoria, N.Y. 11102, Tel. (718) 721-7777
(BQE-GCP/Triboro Bridge, Exit Hoyt Ave, to 21st St, Right to 24th Ave)
Dinner will be served at 5:45 P.M. meeting to follow

Please RSVP, ASAP: Email: MTATMBA@aol.com

Call: Mike Landi (917) 859-6842, Richard Di Puma (917) 859-6844, Ramon Paez (917) 763-1709
Frank De Simone (917) 859-6843, Patricia Courtney (347) 886-5613

Visit our Web Site: www.mtatmba.org



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