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Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc.

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association is a non-profit 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.
c/o 421 Osborne Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3L 2A2

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

The MTHA celebrates...



They're going to put me in the movies...

Bus appears in the Box Collector

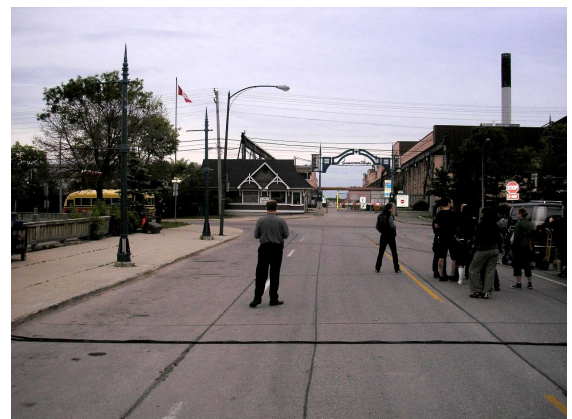
The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association's Twin Coach 111 was on the movie set of the production of "The Box Collector" starring Margo Kidder.

The vintage coach appeared in scene 54, making multiple trips through seven takes at the corner of Pandora and Bond in Transcona.

Association members John Kapusta, Ron Alexander and Alex Regiec were up at the crack of dawn on Sunday June 17th in order to have the bus on the set for the 7am shoot.



The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association's vintage Twin Coach made an appearance in scene 54 of the Box Collector movie. Note that the licence plate had been changed to a South Dakota one.



Above, all is quiet on the set in Transcona as bus 111 passes through scene 54 with the cameras rolling. On the left, John Kapusta appeared as an extra in the movie driving the bus in seven takes of the same scene.

Summer visitors

It was a busy summer with the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc. hosting numerous out-of-town guests. The MTHA would like to thank the following people for stopping in and visiting with us:

Simon Yiu, Felix Tse, Allan, and Luke Olszewski from Ontario; Michael Brady from Blackpool, England; Angus McIntyre from Vancouver, BC; and Patricia Poirier of Stonewall, Manitoba.

MTHA Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 1st, 2007 at McDonald's Restaurant

Present:

John Kapusta, Ron Alexander, Guy Fontaine, Dennis Cavanagh, Pat Rogoski, Alex Regiec, and John Panting.

Regrets:

Terry and Franz Wark, Jim Hunter, Murray Penner, David A. Wyatt, and Benny Konoawalchuk.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 19:10.

Review of Minutes

No report at this time.

Treasurer's Report

No report at this time.

Organization Priorities

The Board members reviewed a list of organizational priorities for the remainder of the year and for the upcoming year.

Administration

Guy Fontaine reported that he had submitted the application to Revenue Canada for Tax Charitable status at the end of June. He indicated that it usually takes six months to process.

Alex Regiec reported on discussions with Transit's Social Committee regarding the MTHA becoming the sponsoring agency for the 50/50 draw once the tax charitable status is available.

The newsletter and website are available to members and the general public.

New membership cards were passed out to the Board members and all MTHA members will receive their cards shortly via Canada Post.

Alex Regiec presented a proposal for the funding and building of a Transit Heritage Museum for review. Ron Alexander motioned that "The president be delegated authority to pursue fund-raising activities related to the Museum proposal." John Panting seconded and the motion passed.

Organizational Priorities continued

Bus Rescue, Restoration and Maintenance

Guy Fontaine raised the issue that it is important we clean-up and organize the parts storage area on Track 36. Ron Alexander proposed that a work party be organized for Wednesday, August 8th at 6:30 PM.

Guy Fontaine and Alex Regiec also mentioned the work space and storage arrangements that had been worked out with Transit including space on Track B and Track 36, which the group later toured.

Alex Regiec reported that he had spoken with Jerry Comeau, Civic Properties Manager, regarding Plessis Road. The storage yard will be available for another 2 years before it is sold off.

John Kapusta mentioned that bus 111 is in need of an oil change, and Guy Fontaine also stated that he would like to do a brake inspection on it shortly.

Bus Operations

Alex Regiec reported that he will be meeting with Don Finkbeiner of Heartland International Tours on Thursday, August 9th to discuss the possibility of providing heritage tours using bus 565 and 751.

Dennis Cavanagh and Pat Rogoski reported they have registered bus 111 in the "Cruisin' Downtown" event sponsored by the Pony Corral restaurants for Saturday, August 11th.

Ron Alexander motioned that the MTHA approve a tax receipt value of \$7,000 to Beaver Bus Lines for the donation of bus 28. Dennis Cavanagh seconded and the motion passed. The bus can be picked up at anytime.

Ron Alexander and John Kapusta confirmed that there are three more events to attend with bus 111 for this year. The group agreed that the MTHA special event programming will conclude at the end of September.

Other Business

The MTHA will send a small group over to the Fire Department to explore what plans that department has for ex-Winnipeg Transit bus 952, an Orion I.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 20:45.

Welcome...

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc. welcomes the following Honourary Members:

William A. Luke
Spokane, Washington, USA

Paul Leger
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Peter Cox
Edmonton, Alberta

Angus McIntyre
Vancouver, British Columbia

MTHANews

Author Russ Gourluck and the Twin Coach at Senior's Centre... ...for a trip down memory lane

On August 8th award-winnig author Russ Gourluck was on hand at the Gwen Sector Creative Living Centre to talk about his book "Going Downtown" a history about the Portage Avenue retail sector and sign autographs.

As an added feature, the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association's 1937 Twin Coach made an appearance to help seniors reminisce about the golden era of downtown Winnipeg.

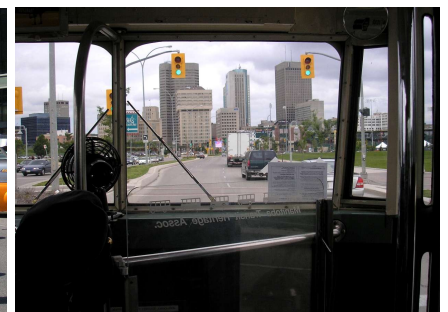
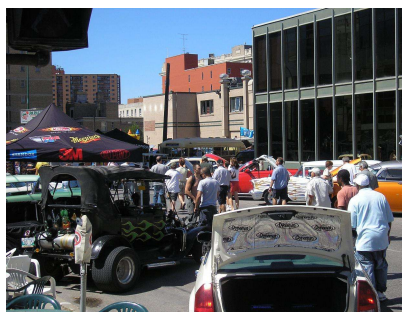


Bus 111 goes for a "Cruz In Downtown"

MTHA members Dennis Cavanagh, Pat Rogoski, David Wyatt and Alex Regiec coordinated the appearance of bus 111 in the 8th annual Cruz In Downtown vintage vehicle display sponsored by Piston Ring and 92CITI-FM on Saturday, August 11th.

The members marshalled the bus with the other 400 classic & vintage cars, fire trucks and army vehicles at Canad Inns Stadium before parading along Portage Avenue to downtown. While on display, the Twin Coach generated a lot of interest from the crowd of nearly 40,000 people who attended.

All proceeds from this event are donated to **The Rainbow Society**, which grants wishes to children suffering from life-threatening illnesses.



Local artist/photographer visits MTHA

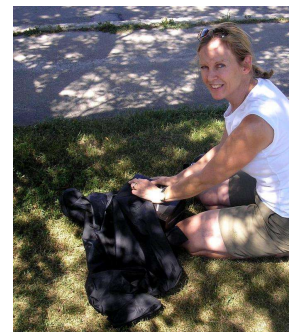


Noted Winnipeg artist and photographer Tracy Peters recently spent an afternoon with MTHA members Guy Fontaine and Alex Regiec capturing images of bus 751.

Traditional film-based photographic techniques - including pinhole photography - are what Tracy uses to create images, which are often recreated memories of past experiences, including riding Winnipeg Transit!

Tracy's work has been exhibited in solo, group, and juried exhibitions, including the Pavilion Gallery Museum, Outworks Art Gallery, Vault Gallery and the Adelaide McDermot Gallery.

Her work has been recognized by CAPA (Canadian Association for Photographic Art) in regional competitions, receiving first place in the monochrome category.



After each picture is taken, Tracy has to carefully re-load film for the pinhole camera in a black bag that substitutes for a dark room on site, hopefully avoiding any exposure to light.

Bus 751 shines in the bright summer sun...



The MTHA's bus 751 made a number of appearances this summer. The 36 year-old bus is a 1971 GMC model TDH-4521 that was donated by Winnipeg Transit to the MTHA in 2000. The bus is fully operational and will be painted back to it's original colours shortly.



MTHA Schedule



Vintage bus collection weekly work parties

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association invites members to come out and help with the vintage fleet restoration. There are a variety of tasks that need doing, and we need your help. Buses 565 and 214 will not re-build themselves!

If you know your way around a tool box, please consider lending a couple hours to help out. We meet on the following Wednesdays between 18:30 and 21:30 at the Fort Rouge Garage, 421 Osborne Street:

September 5, 12, 19,
October 3, 10, 17
November 7, 14, 21
January 16, 23
February 6, 13, 20
March 5, 12, 19
April 9, 16, 23

Members should confirm their attendance with the MTHA President or Treasurer and check for cancellations.

Board meetings

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association board members will meet on the following Wednesdays between 19:00 and 20:30 at the Fort Rouge Garage, 421 Osborne Street:

September 26
October 24
November 28
January 30
February 27
March 26
April 30

Please confirm all meetings dates with your MTHA President or Vice-President. Cancellation notices will be mailed out to board members in advance.

The Transit Heritage Museum Project

The Board of Directors of the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association Inc. formally endorsed a plan presented by MTHA President Alex Regiec to pursue the vision of building a Transit Heritage Museum in Winnipeg.

“The proposed Museum would increase citizen’s awareness of Winnipeg’s and Manitoba’s strong historical role in the bus-industry”, the MTHA president explained to the Board.

The proposed facility would be a small working Museum and Interpretive Centre featuring the vintage vehicles, information displays, and an active workshop area where vehicle restoration work would occur.

The establishment of a museum endowment fund will occur shortly, and fund-raising efforts will be undertaken, with the MTHA applying to various foundations, government programs, and pursuing private donations from corporations and individuals.

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.
c/o 421 Osborne Street, Winnipeg, MB R3L 2A2



In this photograph GWTC bus 403, a 1954 Flexible-Twin Coach model FT2D-40 rounds the corner of Portage & Main destined for Watt Street. This picture was taken and provided courtesy of William A. Luke of Spokane, Washington, USA.