



Mary Tomolonius	Email: <a href="mailto:mary.cact@yahoo.com">mary.cact@yahoo.com</a>
CACT Executive Director	Phone: (860) 693-0368
148 Bahre Corner Road	Mobile: (860) 989-6164
Canton, CT 06019	Website: <a href="http://www.cact.info">www.cact.info</a>



CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION FOR  
COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION

# Annual Meeting

---

Indian Hill Country Club - Newington, Connecticut

June 20, 2012

11:30AM

*Providing a statewide forum for the exchange of public transportation information; advocating for public transportation and public transportation customers at the local, state and federal level; providing training and technical assistance to members; serving as a vehicle for the collection and exchange of information of public interest; and encouraging the most efficient and effective use of all available public transportation resources.*

**THANK YOU**  
to our generous sponsors!

---

**AccuCOMP**  
WORKERS' COMPENSATION  
PREMIUM RECOVERY SERVICE **USA**



**Shepard Bros., Inc.**



# AGENDA

---

**1. Welcome Remarks**

Alan Naudus, Chairperson

**2. Minutes of April 2, 2012**

Joe Comerford, Secretary

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Tami Ostroski, Treasurer

**4. 2012 Annual Report**

Mary Tomolonius, Executive Director

**5. Nominating Report**

Barbara Kalosky

**6. Service Award**

Jonathan Rubell

**Luncheon**

**7. Award Presentations**

**8. Adjournment**





# PLAN OF ACTION: Progress

---

Provide a statewide forum for the exchange of public transportation information:

- Held 4 CACT Membership Meetings
- Held 5 Workshops
- Updates distributed by email to 100 organizations statewide
- Co-hosted 2012 Legislative Breakfast

Advocate for public transportation and public transportation customers at local, state and federal levels:

- Prepared "Transportation Investment in a Changing Economy"
  - Distributed 125 copies
  - Prepared PowerPoint presentation
- Co-hosted Legislative Breakfast with Women's Transportation Seminar
- Provided information to elected and public officials; submitted testimony at public hearings, email alerts, updates, and monthly newsletter
- Supported partnership and coalition work in 2011/2012 with:
  - Connecticut League of Conservation Voters
  - Transit for Connecticut
  - Tri-State Transportation Campaign
- Advocated adequate funding in FY2012 and FY2013 to maintain all current bus services statewide

Encourage the most efficient and effective use of all available public transportation resources:

- Prepared policy-related papers
- Supported legislation promoting access and transit use

Serve as a vehicle for the collection and exchange of information of public transportation interest:

- Held 4 Membership Meetings
- Maintained website and communication via updates & email
- Provided information to members, associates and allies through meetings, email alerts, newsletter and updates

Provide training and technical assistance to members:

- Hosted 3 presentations/forums
- Presented 3 Understanding Public Transportation workshops with The Kennedy Center
- Distributed training information via email updates and event calendar

# Connecticut Association for Community Transportation 2012 AWARD RECIPIENTS

---

## Memorial Award



**Thomas Cheeseman**  
(1943 - 2012)  
Middletown Area Transit

In honor of Thomas Cheeseman for his dedication to the enhancement of public transportation in Connecticut; his contributions to Middletown Area Transit; his years of service to the Connecticut Association for Community Transportation; and his positive attitude and sense of humor.

After graduating from George Washington Carver High School in 1961, Thomas served for eight years in the U.S. Air Force before eventually settling in East Hartford and manufacturing aircraft engines for Pratt & Whitney. Thomas later worked as an administrator with Trailways and Greyhound Bus Lines, as well as Dattco Bus Company before beginning his long tenure managing the daily operations of and coordinating community partnerships with Middletown Area Transit, Middletown.

In addition to working in the field of transportation for 40 plus years, Thomas was also active in local organizations including Connecticut Bus Association and Association of Community Transportation. Over the years, he served as chairman of Central Business Bureau and as a board member for Connecticut Public Transportation Commission, Liberty Bank, Middlesex Hospital and Middlesex Association for Retarded Citizens. Thomas was recognized on several occasions for both his civic service and leadership. One of his proudest moments was receiving the State of Connecticut Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Leadership Award in 2007. Throughout his career, Thomas embraced community service as well as a rich family life.

Thomas is remembered for his kindness as well as for his sense of humor and humility. He was a tireless worker and practical joker alike, an affable man who got along with people from all walks of life.

# Connecticut Association for Community Transportation 2012 AWARD RECIPIENTS

---

## The CACT Service Award



**Ella Bowman**  
South East Area Transit

For her service and dedication as a member of the CACT Executive Board and her dedication in promoting public transportation in Connecticut.

---

## The Thomas Phillips Founder Award



**Governor Dannel P. Malloy**  
Representing the people of Connecticut

This award is being presented to Governor Dannel Malloy for his support and advocacy for public transportation in Connecticut.

---

## Friends of Public Transportation Awards

The Friend of Public Transportation Award is given in recognition of outstanding leadership and dedication to the enhancement of public transportation in the State of Connecticut.



**Senator Joan Hartley**  
Representing the 15th District:  
Naugatuck, Prospect, & Waterbury



**Mayor Pedro Segarra**  
City of Hartford



## 2012 EXCELLENCE IN TRANSPORTATION AWARDS

---

The Excellence in Transportation Award is given by CACT members to recognize the people within their agency who excel at their jobs in transportation but rarely have a formal recognition of their efforts by those in the public transportation industry.

The following individuals have been honored for their hard work and dedication to their jobs. Not only have they succeeded in their daily tasks but they have made a difference. Their diligence has not gone unnoticed and we now honor their hard work.

# LUIS AGUADO

## First Transit

---

Luis Aguado was nominated not only because of his stellar record, but because his professionalism and attention to detail is what makes him a very special person. Luis became a vehicle operator because he loves to serve the public. He has been with First Transit for over three years and has received several passenger compliments stating that he is respectful, caring and helpful. One passenger stated "Luis is the best!"



In his first year he received five vacation days and decided to forfeit them because he decided he would rather come to work than take his vacation. He recently received ten days of vacation and again stated that he would rather come to work and serve the public... I told him that he earned his vacation time and encouraged him to take it by filling out his time off request and sent him on his vacation. Luis is the most dependable operator at our location and deserves the recognition.

Shedrick Robinson  
Assistant General Manager

# STEVEN DeMICHELE

## Greater Bridgeport Transit

---

The expansion of the use of new technologies in day-to-day transit operations is accompanied by the need for new skill sets. The introduction of automatic vehicle location systems, automatic passenger counters, web-based bus tracking, trip planners and new mobile applications requires daily attention to detail if they are to perform in a way that brings value to our riders.



At Greater Bridgeport Transit, the person responsible for ensuring that all of these systems are operational and accurate is Steven DeMichele. For the past eighteen months, Steven has overseen all of these new technologies at GBT keeping them operational, projecting real-time information to riders and ensuring that the vast amounts of data and information generated by the system is of value to GBT's various departments. Within that time, Steven has also taken the lead in the development of driver assignments for fixed route services and works closely with the demand response division on their scheduling and dispatching software.

In May, Steven was promoted to Transportation Planner/Systems Analyst and has an expanded role, including route and schedule planning, and the related public engagement as well as several areas of federal compliance. He is a regular member of special project groups.

Known as "Stevie Wonder" to his colleagues, he is hard working, innovative and passionate about the industry. His contributions during his short time at GBT have been a great benefit to our riders and communities.

For these reasons, we are pleased to nominate Steven DeMichele for the CACT annual Excellence in Transportation Award.

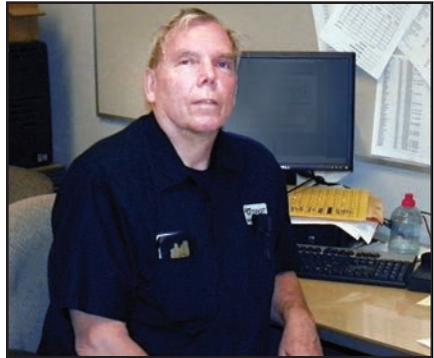
Doug Holcomb  
Chief Executive Officer

# DAVID WRAY

## CTTRANSIT New Haven

---

David Wray, a 33-year employee of **CTTRANSIT**, is the 2012 CACT Excellence in Transportation nominee for **CTTRANSIT**'s New Haven Division. Wray, who began his career as a Mechanic in January 1979, is currently the Senior Supervisor of Maintenance at the New Haven facility. Regarded by his peers as a well-respected and calm professional who rejects the limelight, David oversees all of the maintenance supervisors and assignments that come through the New Haven garage.



David has been honored with numerous awards throughout his employment; including the General Manager Award three times (1997, 2000, 2004) and the Mechanic of the Month Award in 1988, all while recording a Perfect Attendance Record for his first 32 years with the company.

Before starting his career at **CTTRANSIT**, David served seven years as a Jet Engine Mechanic in the United States Air Force; reaching the rank of E-5 Staff Sergeant. He currently resides in North Branford with his wife Margaret, who is also an employee with **CTTRANSIT**'s New Haven Division. David has three sons named David, Dennis, and Michael and four granddaughters. In his spare time he enjoys (what else?) working on cars; specifically his sons' race cars, which they race competitively during the racing season at Stafford Motor Speedway. He also enjoys going camping, particularly on Cape Cod, with his wife during their vacation time.

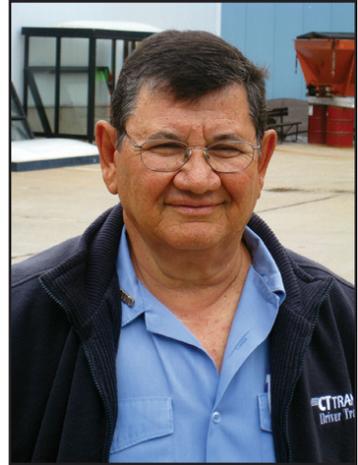
*"As the Senior Supervisor in the Maintenance Department, Dave is the person who keeps the shop working efficiently and effectively, all the while ensuring that we have sufficient vehicles available to meet our service needs. He has an amazing wealth of experience and knowledge in all aspects of vehicle repair and maintenance and he uses this experience to its fullest in supervising the maintenance shop. Unfortunately for us, Dave will be retiring this year, and while I am very happy for Dave; there is no question he will leave a great void in the department. Dave is not a person who seeks or wants the limelight but he is very deserving of this award and I am glad to see he finally gets the recognition he deserves."*

Vic Marques  
New Haven Division Manager

# MARIO SIGNORELLI

## CTTRANSIT Hartford

If there were an Encyclopedia on how to drive a bus, Mario Signorelli would be the author. "Super Mario," as he's affectionately called around **CTTRANSIT's** Hartford Division, has been an employee with **CTTRANSIT** for 33 years. He entered the company in 1979 as a Bus Operator and now, after his promotion in 1990, serves as a Driver Instructor. Mario is credited with helping to train hundreds of **CTTRANSIT** bus operators, both in the classroom and on the road, on the matters of bus operations, farebox procedures, customer service, and public relations. He can also frequently be spotted at important **CTTRANSIT** events and on the local news as he is consistently asked to transport buses to and from the venues.



A veteran, Mario was called upon by his country to serve in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, resulted in three years of service, two of which were served overseas in combat from 1966-'68. Today, he happily resides in the town of Cromwell, Connecticut with his wife Paula. Together, they have one daughter and two grandchildren. They enjoy traveling together, particularly to Myrtle Beach and anywhere else there may be water. Also a handyman, Mario enjoys golfing and working on his family's cars and his house during his spare time outside of work.

*"Thinking of Mario Signorelli's contributions to **CTTRANSIT** brings to mind the phrase "salt of the earth," meaning hard-working and devoted to others. During thirty-three years as a Bus Operator and Driver Trainer, Mario exemplified these virtues. The proof of excellence is heard in what customers and co-workers say about the difference you make. Mario's customers value the hundred little things he does for them each day. His trainees praise him as a natural leader, empathetic, but also insistent that they 'get it right.' The "salt of the earth" adds value to the lives of others, and Mario Signorelli is recognized for the value he adds for customers and staff at **CTTRANSIT**."*

Nancy Ferrantella  
Hartford Superintendent of Safety & Training

# NUNO TORRES

## CTTRANSIT Stamford

---

Jacinto Torres, or Nuno as he's more commonly referred to around the garage, is CTTRANSIT Stamford Division's nominee for the 2012 Excellence in Transportation Award. Nuno has been a Mechanic for the Stamford Division for a little over 20 years and still comes to work before the break of dawn everyday with a positive and hard working attitude. A specialist in engine and electrical repair, he is always willing to take on any assignment and never backs down from any of the many challenges the garage throws his way.



"He will help anyone," says his supervisor and Stamford Supervisor of Maintenance Thai Ly. "Electrical, mechanical, cleaning, inspecting, he will help anyone with any job and give 120%. He's a hard worker and from A to Z, he knows it all. He deserves this award."

Nuno resides in Milford, Connecticut with his wife of 23 years, Yolanda. Together, they have three children, two sons named Jacinto Jr. and Joshua, and one daughter named Ashley. In his spare time, Nuno enjoys fishing and piloting his boat on the Long Island Sound with his wife.

*"Jacinto 'Nuno' Torres is an outstanding employee for the Stamford Maintenance Department. Nuno handles the morning pullout with great competency. He's quick to respond to any request and can be counted on to get the job done right. Since taking over the maintenance of on-bus video equipment, reliability of videos has improved dramatically. Before Nuno maintained the cameras, it was common to have malfunctioning recordings which made it difficult for the Claims Department to defend the Company. Now video reliability is over 90%. Nuno has a friendly disposition and approaches any task assigned with a "can do" attitude. We're very lucky to have him here in Stamford."*

Glenn Fenton  
Stamford Division Manager

# JIM REGINATTO

Northwestern CT Transit District

---

Jim Reginatto began working for the District in 2010. He applied for a driving position to fill his time in between serving as a Constable for the City of Torrington.

Jim began as a per diem driver filling in for drivers when they were sick or on vacation. He did a few special trips for different senior groups when the regular drivers were already committed. That has all changed! He now drives Dial-A-Ride routes on a regular basis in Litchfield and Torrington, has been promoted to Lead Driver where he has put in place a wheelchair training program. He also has an overwhelming following of riders who will only book their special trips with him.



One particular group he drives on a monthly basis is the Canaan/Falls Village group. On a recent Saturday trip he volunteered to take a group from Morris over to the UCONN Campus in Storrs. One of the women wrote in a note stating, "Jim had no problem navigating the way. He was friendly, helpful and polite to passengers. The District can be very proud to have Jim as one of their drivers. Jim is our go-to-guy for our senior outings, he knows where everything is, where the best restaurants are and gives us great ideas for future trips. He is so kind to all riders! We consider him a great asset to our group! He is always cheerful and upbeat. We wouldn't think of going anywhere without Jim!"

Whenever asked to cover a run, pick-up a bus out of town, look at any bus issues, and cover the office when staff is out sick or at meetings, Jim never hesitates to say yes. He is also a wonderful son and husband. In between his two jobs he always manages to make sure his parents are at their doctor appointments and never fails to meet his wife for one of their lunch dates. Yes, after 24 years of marriage he always seems to get a big smile on his face when he speaks of his wife and their dates!

The District recognizes how fortunate they are to have a person like Jim a part of their organization.

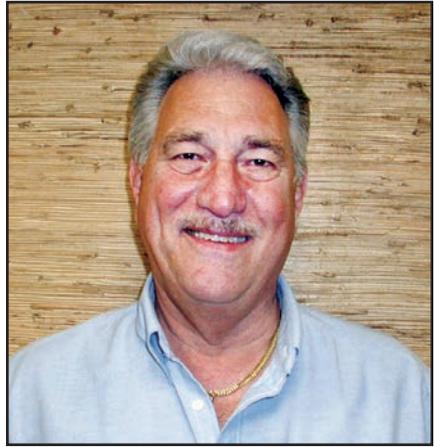
Carol Deane  
Executive Director

# RICHARD PALLADINO

North East Transportation Co., Inc.

---

Richard is noted for his work ethic and dedication. He has been a paratransit driver with North East Transportation for over 11 years. He has proven to be an exemplary employee.



Rich has one of the highest on-time performance records of any other operator in our system, and also holds an excellent safety record for his 11 years with no accidents. Even in extreme weather in the winter months, he is right there everyday and is always looking out for the safety of his passengers in dealing with the conditions of the roads and making sure to get everyone home safely. Additionally, Rich serves as a safety trainer for our new employees and assists them as much as possible.

In those 11 years, he has had perfect attendance except for one incident that caused him to miss two weeks from work.

Rich is a team player and takes great pride in his work and his positive attitude is appreciated by all. Unfortunately, Rich will be retiring this August from North East and he will be greatly missed by his co-workers and clients, and we wish him the best of luck.

Maria Vaccarelli  
ADA Coordinator

# IRV FISHER

## Greater New Haven Transit District

---

Irv has been an employee at Greater New Haven Transit District (GNHTD) for the past nine years as a Facility Assistant. In this role with the company, Irv has been a “Jack of all Trades.” We at Greater New Haven Transit District can attest that Irv knows them all, well.

Irv’s daily assignments require him to wear many different hats for us, including landscaper, carpenter, electrician, plumber, gardener, painter, tree expert and much more.



Irv has become a hero here at GNHTD. He is appreciated and respected by all that know him. He always begins his day greeting everyone he comes in contact with. The greetings are always paired with a smile, which helps everyone get their day started on the right foot.

Irv has been a great asset to GNHTD and the entire staff relies on his expertise to keep things running smoothly. We are proud to call him a co-worker and did not hesitate to nominate Irv for this award.

Mike Klubek  
Maintenance Manager

# GREG SCOTT

## 9 Town Transit

---

After transporting school children for over a decade, Greg Scott came to 9 Town Transit as a bus operator. In the little more than one year with us, he has become a valuable asset to the organization. No matter what the job is, Greg is always up to the task.

Within a short time, Greg knew all the regular passengers by name. He has quickly become a customer favorite, and always goes above and beyond to provide exceptional service.



Greg Scott has become an integral part of our organization and a huge contributor to our success.

Joseph Comerford  
Executive Director

# CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION

---

## **The Connecticut Association for Community Transportation (CACT)**

is a non-profit association committed to promoting and improving public transportation in Connecticut. Our membership represents a diverse group of transportation organizations across the state, including public transit operators, not-for-profit transportation providers and brokerages, regional planning agencies, funding organizations, rideshare agencies, social service agency transportation providers, suppliers to transit providers, private for-profit transportation providers, individuals involved in transportation issues and users of public transportation services.

## 2010 - 2012 OFFICERS

---

### **Chairperson**

Alan Naudus

*Greater New Haven Transit District*

### **Vice-Chairperson**

Jonathan Rubell

*The Kennedy Center*

### **Secretary**

Joseph Comerford

*9 Town Transit*

### **Treasurer**

Tami Ostroski

*Northwestern CT Transit District*

### **Executive Board Members**

Ella Bowman

*Southeast Area Transit*

Pegi Brandt

*Norwalk Transit District*

DJ Gonzalez

*Greater Hartford Transit District*

Barbara Kalosky

*North East Transportation*

Kimberlee Morton

*CTTRANSIT*

# It's Not Pretty Just Pretty Effective



This cross section of our galvanized steel roll cage makes a bus "a bus". These steel side-walls extend beneath the floor and when welded and bolted in place, provide added strength and safety in the event of an accident. It may seem strange, but we spend considerable time thinking about safety, because although your passengers take it for granted, we can't. That's why we build it in from the ground up, then test it—specifically the FMVSS 214 side impact test.



Here are just a few more features:

- Roll guard rear suspension that greatly increases vehicle stability and safety.
- Low center of gravity that reduces rollover potential.
- Floor frame of 11 gauge steel Z members.
- Laminated walls for structural integrity.

At a proving facility in Wisconsin, a 4,000 lb. steel sled approaching 35 m.p.h. slammed into the side of our bus. The concussion was mind blowing—the damage to the bus was minimal. In fact, we drove the bus back home! Steel cage design is unique to our buses and as noted above, it's not pretty, just pretty effective.

For more information check us out on the web or call **Paul Hubbard** at: 585-330-2402 or email: [phubb18281@aol.com](mailto:phubb18281@aol.com)

Street Smart Since 1895

## Shepard Bros., Inc.

200 Eastern Blvd. • Canandaigua, NY 14424  
tel 585-396-2690 • fax 585-396-1323 • [www.shepardbrosinc.com](http://www.shepardbrosinc.com)