WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC TRANSIT ASSOCIATION
2017 CONFERENCE
“ROUTES TO THE FUTURE”
Welcome to the 2017 West Virginia Public Transit Association Annual Conference at the beautiful Stonewall Resort. We are looking forward to a productive and exciting event filled with valuable information and essential networking time.

Mapping our “Routes to the Future” is only possible with input from our members and insight from our vendors. It is our goal to renew and strengthen our membership, build strong bridges of communication with vendors and establish a path to enhanced public transit in West Virginia.

Enjoy your time at Stonewall Resort, take time to get to know each other better and join with us as we discover our routes to the future of West Virginia Public Transit!

Tim Thomas, President
Paula Smith, Vice President
Doug Pixler, Secretary
Tom Hvizdos, Treasurer
Susan O’Connell, Executive Director
Suzanne Park, Director of Communications
### AGENDA

#### Wednesday, July 26

- **8:30 – 9:00am**
  - WVPTA Board Meeting

- **9:00 – Noon**
  - **Route 101: WVPTA – Directions Please... Or How Do We Get There From Here?**
    - Facilitator: Scott Bogren, CTAA

- **Noon: National Perspective**

- **1:30**
  - **Route 102: Under Pressure? Handling Depression, Grief in the Workplace**
    - Presenter: Michelle Lewis

- **2:15 Break**

- **2:30**
  - **Route 103: Community Rehab Programs**
    - Speaker: Bob Pirner, WV Association for Disability Employment

- **3:30 – 5:30pm**
  - Vendor Round-Table and Expo Group

- **6:00pm**
  - **Road Stop Diner!**
  - **Live Entertainment**

#### Thursday, July 28

- **7:30 – 9:00am**
  - Breakfast

- **8:30 – 10:15**
  - **Route 104: Drugs on Board!!!**
    - Presenter: Robbie Sarles, RLS Associates

- **10:30 -12:00**
  - **STOP!!! Pedestrian Accident Mitigation Strategies and Awareness**
    - Presenter: Michael Noel

- **1:00**
  - **Route 105: Transit Asset Management**
    - Presentation: Anne Marie Resnick, FTA Financial Analyst

- **6:00pm Social Time**

- **6:30pm**
  - **Banquet: Excellence in Transit Awards Presentations**
### Bluefield Area Transit

- **Operator:** City of Bluefield
- **Manager:** Patrick McKinney
- **Assistant Manager:** Tammy Bennett
- **Address:** 3208 John Nash Blvd.
- **Phone:** 304-327-8418
- **Emails:** pmckinney@ridethebatbus.com, tbennett@ridethebatbus.com
- **Web:** [www.ridethebatbus.com](http://www.ridethebatbus.com)

Serving Bluefield/Princeton area, Mercer, Welch & McDowell Counties

### Buckwheat Express

- **Operator:** Preston County Senior Citizens, Inc.
- **Executive Director:** Janie Lou White
- **Address:** 108 Senior Center Drive
- **Phone:** 304-329-0464 or 329-0678
- **Email:** prestonseniors@atlanticbb.net
- **Web:** [www.buckwheatexpress.com/default.htm](http://www.buckwheatexpress.com/default.htm)

Serving Preston County

### Central WV Transit Authority

- **General Manager:** Vanessa Perkins
- **Address:** 208 North 4th Street
- **Phone:** 304-623-6002
- **Email:** vanessa@centrabus.com
- **Web:** [www.centrabus.com](http://www.centrabus.com)

Serving Harrison County

### Country Roads Transit

- **Operator:** The Committee on Aging in Randolph County, Inc.
- **Executive Director:** Laura Ward
- **Address:** 5th Street & Railroad Avenue
- **Phone:** 304-636-6472

Serving Randolph & Upshur Counties

### Eastern Panhandle Transit Authority

- **Executive Director:** Doug Pixlar
- **Address:** 446 Novak Drive
- **Phone:** 304-263-0876
- **Email:** pmckinney@ridethebatbus.com, tbennett@ridethebatbus.com
- **Web:** [www.ridethebatbus.com](http://www.ridethebatbus.com)

Serving Berkeley & Jefferson Counties

### Fairmont-Marion County Transit Authority

- **General Manager:** George Levitsky
- **Address:** 400 Quincy Street
- **Phone:** 304-366-8177 or 304-366-8180
- **Email:** glevitsky@fmcta.com
- **Web:** [www.fmcta.com](http://www.fmcta.com)

Serving Marion County

### Barbour County Senior Center, Inc. dba Here and There Transit

- **Director:** Sharon Lanham
- **Address:** 336 Mansfield Drive
- **Phone:** 304-457-1818 Brenda: 304-457-4545
- **Email:** bcsc@bcscwv.org
- **Web:** [www.hereandtheretransit.com](http://www.hereandtheretransit.com)

Serving Barbour County

### Kanawha Valley Regional Transportation Authority

- **General Manager:** Dennis Dawson
- **Assistant General Manager:** Doug Hartley
- **Address:** 1550 4th Avenue
- **Phone:** 304-343-3840
- **Emails:** ddawson@rideonKRT.com, dhartley@rideonKRT.com
- **Web:** [www.rideonkrt.com](http://www.rideonkrt.com)

Serving Kanawha County
Little Kanawha Transit Authority
Darlene Crane, Manager
6162 South Calhoun Highway
Mt. Zion, WV 26151
(PO Box 387, Grantsville, West Virginia 26147)
Phone: 304-354-6216
Email: lkbc@frontiernet.net
Web: www.littlekanawahbus.com
Serving Calhoun, Jackson, Roane Counties & Gilmer Counties

Mid-Ohio Valley Transit Authority
Tim Thomas, CCTM, General Manager
520 Juliana Street
Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101
Phone: 304-422-4100
Email: timothyt@easyriderbus.com
Web: www.easyriderbus.com
Serving Parkersburg/Vienna Area

“Mountain Line”
Monongalia County Urban Mass Transit Authority
David Bruffy, General Manager
Wayne Pifer, Assistant Manager
420 DuPont Road
Morgantown, West Virginia 26501
Phone: 304-296-3680
Email: bruffy@busride.org pifer@busride.org
Web: www.busride.org
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Mountain Transit Authority
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Summersville, West Virginia 26651
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Email: admin@mtawv.com
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Email: ap.austin@yahoo.com
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Ohio Valley Regional Transportation Authority
Tom Hvizdos, Executive Director
21 South Huron Street
Wheeling, West Virginia 26003
Phone: 304-232-2190
Email: hvizdos@ovrta.org
Web: www.ovrta.org
Serving Ohio County

Potomac Valley Transit Authority
J. Douglas Carter, General Manager
185 Providence Lane
Petersburg, West Virginia 26847
Phone: 304-257-1414
Email: jcarter@potomacvalleytransit.org
Web: www.potomacvalleytransit.org
Serving Grant, Hardy, Hampshire, Mineral, & Pendleton Counties

TriRiver Transit
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Cammie Saul, Assistant Director
753 Marconi Drive
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Jennifer Woodall, CCTM, Assistant General Manager
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Email: pdavis@tta-wv.com
jwoodall@tta-wv.com
Web: www.tta-wv.com
Serving greater Huntington area, Milton & Barboursville, Cabell County;
Ceredo and Kenova, Wayne County; Proctorville, Chesapeake and Ironton, Lawrence County Ohio

Weirton Transit Corporation
Kevin Beynon, Manager
200 Municipal Plaza
Weirton, West Virginia 26062
Phone: 304-797-8597
Email: wtctransit@cityofweirton.com
Serving City of Weirton, Hancock County

We are Returning….
Save The Date
WV Public Transit Association
Conference 2018
Stonewall Resort
July 24 - 26
Scott Bogren, leading the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) as Executive Director and opening #WVPTA2017 as facilitator for “WVPTA – Directions Please...Or How Do We Get There from Here?” Scott has been working with, writing about and covering the community and public transportation industry for nearly three decades. His experience with CTAA includes being Editor-in-Chief of Community Transportation magazine; crafting the Association's various legislative, policy and regulatory positions on Capitol Hill; and shaping CTAA’s communications, training and leadership activities. A proud graduate of Indiana University’s Journalism program, Scott lives in Germantown, Md., with his wife Beth and their two children Riley and Ella. In his spare time he like sports, kayaking and reading.

Michelle Lewis is a Social Worker with over fifteen years of experience helping people with Post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, and grief. She will be guiding the discussion on “Grief and Depression in the Workplace: What to know for yourself and your customers”. Grief is an experience that almost everyone will experience at some point in their life. Often unrecognized or unexpressed grief will become depressive symptoms. In this workshop, you will learn to recognize the common symptoms related to grief and depression. In addition, you will learn how to help others and yourself when you begin to notice these symptoms. Michelle has worked with the Department of Veteran’s Affairs and the West Virginia Family Grief Center. She is currently in private practice at Integrative Counseling Solutions.
Anne Marie Resnick, Federal Transit Administration, Office of Program Management & Oversight (Monitoring). Guiding us through Route 105: Transit Asset Management. Email: annemarie.resnick@dot.gov Phone: 215-656-7249

Bob Pirner and Janniece Sleigh will be pointing specifics in “Route 103: Community Rehab Programs”. Bob is a Navy veteran and has spent 28 years in West Virginia working to help people with disabilities find independence. First, he was the Development Officer at Stepping Stones and worked to develop recreational programming including a state of the art facility. In June, 2009 after recovering from cancer, he joined PACE Enterprises as Director of Development. He is a co-founder of Operation Welcome Home and Miracle Baseball. He has served as the Executive Director of the West Virginia Association for Disability Employment since 2014. Originally from the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota, Bob is one of 6000 living fluent speakers of the Sioux language. In 2016, the Dominion Post recognized Bob as a Morgantown Ambassador for Progress. He is also a recipient of the Rotary Four Way Test Award.

Janniece Sleigh is currently the Executive Director of Empowerment Through Employment, Inc who has worked with people with disabilities and veterans to enhance their life and career aspirations. After spending nearly two decades working in the human service field managing non-profit organizations in West Virginia and Pennsylvania from startup to multimillion dollar organizations, Janniece knows what truly drives the success to serve the community - passion, advocacy, and growth.

Janniece was compelled to follow this career path when her father, a navy veteran lost his eye-sight while serving in the military. She was impassioned by his determination to over-come his disability and own a successful business.

Janniece started her career by managing residential agencies for people with disabilities. In 2006, Janniece began working for Transitional Services, Inc. in Pittsburgh as a Clearinghouse Manager managing a multimillion dollar grant for the new Permanent Housing Program through The Housing First Model serving people with mental illness. Janniece moved to West Virginia in 2009 where she pursued a clinical position as a Behavior Support Manager. Through this position, she was inspired by people with disabilities and their desire to work and contribute to the community. This moved her to take the position of Executive Director of Empowerment Through Employment, Inc.

Janniece is the founding and current Secretary of the West Virginia Association for Disability Employment (WVDAE), member of the Nutterfort Lion Club, member of the Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce, member of the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Committee.
Ms. Robbie L. Sarles is President and owner of RLS & Associates, Inc., a consulting firm in Dayton, Ohio. She will be steering the conversation for “Route 104: Drugs on Board!!” This year, RLS & Associates will celebrate 30 years of work exclusively in the transit industry, assisting state departments of transportation, local governments, and rural, small urban and human services transportation systems, both across the country and internationally. Ms. Sarles is a nationally-recognized trainer and expert in the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA’s) drug and alcohol testing regulations. She is the Principal-in-Charge for statewide drug and alcohol testing regulatory compliance assessments for Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Indiana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, and West Virginia and has personally conducted more than a thousand drug and alcohol program assessments, policy reviews, and training programs throughout the nation. Ms. Sarles continues to write for the FTA-published Drug and Alcohol Program Quarterly Updates and was a co-author of the Implementation Guidelines for Drug and Alcohol Regulations in Mass Transit and the FTA Drug and Alcohol Best Practices Manual. Ms. Sarles completed an M.S., Transportation Engineering, The Ohio State University; M.S., City and Regional Planning, The Ohio State University; and B.S., Geography and Psychology, Western Kentucky University. She is an Instructor for the Transportation Safety Institute and an Adjunct Professor for the Wright State University, Fairborn, Ohio.
Michael Noel, will be directing a critical discussion on a relatively new concern: STOP!!!

Pedestrian Accident Mitigation Strategies and Awareness. A small-town boy and a natural born “people person,” who after deciding that his professional drummer career was doomed, Michael worked with special needs children and was eventually charged with designing efficient methods and routes to transport the children (pre-child car seats) safely from a broad county area to the center and back home again. This was the start of his experience of over 40 years in the transit industry with positions such as CDL driver, planner, grant writer, manager, trouble shooter, “Sam Safety,” trainer, consultant, motivational speaker, event planner, innovator, facilitator, subject expert, leader, and developer.

Michael, after working 16 years in transit and paratransit, managed the Pennsylvania training program, PennTRAIN, offering innovative and award-winning programs. This lead to the formation of the transit consulting firm, Lazaro & Noel LLC – one really smart and one really good-looking guy – which evolved into Noel Training & Consulting LLC. The small-town boy went national, delivering services in 42 states to thousands of transit professionals.

Michael is a senior instructor for Community Transportation Association of America and the National Transit Institute.

Michael continues to play the drums, searches for ways to improve, reads prolifically, plays with the grandchildren, loves people, and attempts to provide direction.

West Virginia Public Transit Systems transported 5.9 million people safely, efficiently, and effectively over 11.9 million miles last year.*

*Source: WV Division of Public Transit Statewide Totals for Transit Operators July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016
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Thursday Evening Speaker
The Honorable Tim Miley
WV House of Delegates Minority Leader

Tim Miley has been elected to serve the 48th District in the West Virginia House of Delegates continuously from 2004 to the present. He has served as Vice Chairman for the Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee, Vice Chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary, and was named Chairman of that Committee in 2010. On June 18, 2013, Tim was elected as the Speaker of the House of Delegates and now serves as Minority Leader.

When not serving in his legislative capacity, he is a lawyer, author and owner of The Miley Legal Group in Clarksburg, a small business that employs 10 people.

Delegate Miley was born in Cheverly, Maryland, the son of Robert and Sandra Miley. He earned his B.B.A in Finance from Southern Methodist University and his J.D. from Duquesne University. Tim is admitted to practice in all courts in West Virginia and currently is a member of the West Virginia State Bar, Harrison County Bar Association, American Association for Justice, and the West Virginia Association for Justice. He is also a member of the Harrison County Chamber of Commerce.

He resides in Bridgeport, West Virginia with his wife, Susan, and stepdaughter, Jordin.
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WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC TRANSIT ASSOCIATION
2017 CONFERENCE
“ROUTES TO THE FUTURE

Stonewall Resort, July 26 – 27, 2017