



Beachlines

A safety newsletter
for our employees
and friends

Volume 31

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Spring 2023

From the Driver's Seat



Greg and Scott Beach, sons of Bob and grandsons of company founder Ray Beach.

It is with mixed feelings that we announce the retirement of our General Manager, Robert W. "Mitch" Mitchell on July 1st. It is difficult if not impossible to sum up his achievements over the past 38 years. Mitch has been the epitome of a true servant-leader and has been a true inspiration for all of us. At any hour of the day or night, you can count on him. He has played an important role and we would like to express our gratitude for the work that he has done to ensure that Beach Transportation delivered safe, reliable transportation services to our customers.

Robert "Mitch" Mitchell, came to Missoula from Butte in 1985 to attend school. To help defray costs he took a part-time job driving a school bus. As it turned out, he liked the Missoula community and being involved with kids so much that he decided to make Beach Transportation his career. He rose through the ranks, starting out in the wash bay and driving school buses while attending classes. He eventually began driving Beachliner motorcoaches to various sporting events and on group tours and then went on to become the Safety Director, Dispatcher and General Manager.

While it is impossible to sum up his career in just a few paragraphs, below are



samples of dozens and dozens of letters that we have received about Mitch over the years.

In an article in the *Missoulian*, Evelyn King, commented about a trip that she and her husband took to Jackpot, Nevada on a Beachliner driven by Mitch, she said that "The undisputed hero on the trip was not the dealer, but the driver, Bob Mitchell. In spite of ice, snow, sleet, and other daffy drivers and deer, he safely piloted a busload of senior citizen to Jackpot and back."

Mitch took a National Park tour and received the following compliment from a passenger of the tour,

"We had the privilege of being driven by Bob Mitchell in one of your buses. His professionalism and courtesy are outstanding and it is most refreshing to see someone like Bob who is completely 'customer conscious' and has such an excellent sense of service".



Mitch plans on not completely retiring. Between fishing trips and playing golf, he plans on driving an occasional trip or two. Please join in congratulating Mitch on a job well done!

At this time is with great pleasure that we also announce that Mr. Carlin Cavill will be taking the helm as General Manager at Beach Transportation. He was born and raised in the Bitterroot Valley and joined Beach Transportation upon successful completion of his service in the Coast Guard. He has spent more than 30 years working as the Maintenance Foreman at Beach Transportation and during his tenure his contributions have been integral to our success and continuity. We congratulate Carlin on his selection.

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From the Driver's Seat Continued

Additionally, it is also our pleasure to also announce that Mr. Josh Spaid, a 22-year employee with the company, will be taking over as Head Dispatcher. Josh is a talented individual who has worked behind the scenes in many capacities over the years to keep the organization on track.

Finally, we want to say thanks says to all Beach Transportation team members for continuing to make a difference in our community. Clearly, no one individual builds or runs an organization. It's a TEAM effort and the number one reason that Beach Transportation has stood the test of time is because we operate as a TEAM.

THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE TO MONTANA'S KIDS. GOD BLESS YOU, AND GOD BLESS OUR COUNTRY. Enjoy your summer!

Last Day of School

Join us on the last day of school June 9th for our annual barbecue.

At the end of every school year Greg and Scott like to say **thank you** by hosting a

year end BBQ for everyone in the Beach Transportation family. This year the shop guys will be cooking up burgers and brats with tables set up in the wash bay.

Don't forget your favorite Hawaiian shirt!



Let us know you're coming Back!

- Please check in with the office staff the week of July 15 to let us **know that you'll be back in the fall.**
- **Don't forget if you know someone** that would make a good driver tell them to come see us . We train for the new school year right now.
- We also need attendants!



We need you to drive this bus

Reminders

- Please sweep the floor and empty the garbage daily, so that anyone who uses your bus will start with a clean bus.
- **Start your Spring Cleaning early so it's not such a big job on the last day.**
- Clean your bus, fuel it, and empty the trash on **the last day of school. Don't forget to get your checkout sheet from the office.**



It's Construction Season

We made it through Fall and Winter, now it's time for construction season. Every corner you round there is a road being resurfaced like Brooks St and W Broadway or a water line being replaced like Mount and Second St. When our routes take us through these areas it can cause us to run late or even worse we get blocked and can't make it to bus stop. Please be patient! The office



is hear to help guide you through these hazards. We understand that construction comes with slower speeds and more traffic causing routes to run late. If you are running late let the office know and continue your route safely. You might have to detour your route. This sometimes includes temporarily moving a bus stop you can't get to, please check with the office before you make any changes. We know construction can be frustrating. Please be patient, don't force yourself through, and don't share your frustrations on the radio. Remember the construction workers are also, just trying to do their job.

From the GM:

Has another school year come and gone? Holy Cow. For me, 38 years have come and gone at Beach Transportation. By this time, most everyone knows that I will step down as General Manager on July 1st of this year. I know that some folks think that I am exhausted and have made this decision just recently but that is not the case at all. I have been preparing for years to retire at this time. So, here I am and right on course but how do I express my gratitude to all in just one quick article. Many have told me over the years that I should write a book. Most importantly, I would like to try to express how privileged I have been to represent this great company through the years. As I have travelled throughout our community, state and country, I have visited with so many folks that have a great respect for the company that we are privileged to work for. I must admit that it has been a blur as I have had many discussions with students, parents, administrators, coaches, tour guides, politicians, lawyers, celebrities and must admit that they have all brought great challenges. In most all cases, the end result has been rewarding but will admit not in all cases. Of course, there are obvious people to thank. The sad part about a topic that should be joyful is many of those folks have passed over the past 38 years. Bob Beach and Harold Keyser were great mentors and I am the luckiest person on earth to have met these two great men. They continued to bring me along through the company as I began as an afternoon palooka bus driver from Butte. I soaked up every bit of knowledge about the busing business and life in general from them. I heard Bob say to kids a hundred times at least; "you look a man in the eye and give him a firm hand shake." Best advice I ever received. Greg Beach, Scott Beach, and I are all roughly the same age and we have been such great friends over the years. It is a friendship that I will always cherish. I believe we all understand that Scott and



Robert Michell
New Hire Photo



Greg are exceptional businessmen but I can attest that they are great people. I have seen the generosity of the Beach Family so many times in 38 years and first hand many many times. We are so lucky to be working for these individuals. Please allow me to recognize Dick Shipporet, Herb Roehl, John Chinske, Don Whalen, and Mike Keyser for the great trips that we have been on and for the fun times in general. Thanks for putting up with me, Mike. Cindy Marcum and Carol Duane have provided a smile for me everyday for 38 years. So much appreciated each and every day. I will not be leaving Beach Transportation. I will carry on as a bus driver this next school year so I look forward to thanking folks individually for everything. It takes every person in our company to make it work efficiently and I cannot possibly thank everyone enough for their efforts.

As I pass my duties along to the next man up, I am comforted in knowing that Carlin Cavill will carry on as General Manager. We all know Carlin and know that he knows the Beach Transportation way. He has complete respect for our company and the knowledge to handle the task at hand. His years of experience as Maintenance Director will provide a smooth transition into the General Manager position. Josh Spaid will move into the position of Head Dispatcher. Of course, Josh has complete knowledge of our Beach Transportation dispatch program. We will incorporate some changes in technology regarding dispatch and Josh will be the perfect person to move that program forward. Anne Buck will pick up some additional dispatch duties as well as direct the special needs transportation department. Should be business as usual from those two. We are also going to hire another full-time position at Beach which will be a Clerical Administrator. This person will provide much of the office clerical work and no Becky is not retiring. I do believe that she started that rumor. We recognize that we could use another person to fill all the tasks that it takes to run a business of our size.

You can see that it is impossible to end a 38-year career in four paragraphs. My book is not complete as I look to the next chapter in my life; fishing, golf, gardening, travel, and school bus driving. Again, thank you all so much and God Bless. -Mitch

Thanks for Another Great Year!



Thanks to all of you for the completion of another successful school year! Each of you, and the individual role you fill, makes such a difference in the lives of the 4270 children we daily transport from home to school and back again.

Many students have benefitted from the safe transportation you've provided, here are a few:

- ✓ 93 preschool/Early K students
- ✓ 347 Special needs students (including Families in Transition and English Language Learners)
- ✓ 130 to Vo-ag/Auto Tech
- ✓ 850 others to School High School activities- Speech and debate, robotics, FFA etc.
- ✓ 2340 student athletes
- ✓ 80,000 seats filled for numerous field trips throughout the year



(These numbers are estimates and the field trip seat number is on the low side!)

Please don't ever believe that your job doesn't matter or say that you are JUST a bus attendant or JUST a school bus driver. The safe transportation you provide allows many opportunities for Missoula students. To those of you who choose to continue driving school buses and motor coaches during the summer, we very much appreciate your willingness to take on these extra trips. There are many weddings, concerts and chartered tours that will demand your highest

attention to safety. These assignments often involve driving on a weekend or evening when the office and its support team are not just a radio call away. The company depends on these drivers to be reliable, interact courteously with customers, and act as exemplary representatives of the values we have for safe driving. We are very seldom disappointed with you folks that take these extra trips, thank you very much! We've had many positive comments this year about the job you have all done. Special needs teams have had both teachers and parents comment on the amazing work done and the compassion shown. We've also received several calls about bus drivers that have put in a little extra effort with a student or have operated their bus safely in a difficult situation. You are all the lifeblood of the company and you do make a difference!

Now, as we edge toward summer, we hope that you, our Beach Transportation family, have a terrific break filled with fun, friends and family. Enjoy, be safe and we hope to see you all back this Fall rested, refreshed and ready for another great year, (and bring your friends!)

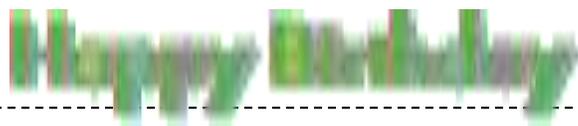
Meet the New Team Members:

Please take some time to talk with and welcome these folks to the Beach Transportation family, and check the bulletin board in the lounge for updates and photos.

Drivers: Bonnie Dotz, Thomas Hawkins, Daniel Grogan, Morghan Anela Thomas, Laurence Schroeder, Robert Ellis, William Franz, Andrew McFarland, Ross Holt

Attendants: Bobbie Weston, Ralph Casebolt, Kaytlin Pamin, Camryn Petesen,

Mechanic: Brett Humphrey



May

Larry Taylor
Rick Caron
Kevin Cregg
Lynda Drouillard
Michelle Boland
Patrick Andrus
Lyndey Langley
Leon Houston
Gerry Saulter
Carlin Cavill
Sarah Bissett
Colby Pickering
Cindy Dollinger
Bob Luceno

June

Mike Keyser
Larry Allen-235
Bonnie Pengelly
Larry Schroeder
Cliff Goodman
Brett Humphrey
Frankie Worden
Ginny Thormahlen
Paul Yelton
Maggie Amos
Ross Holt
Connie Underwood
Val Klautd
Butch Wesland

July

Joseph Drouillard
Sandy Thornton
Gary Hettick
MaryAnn Roe
Cheyenne Devereaux
Jared Simkins
Matt Simkins
Kaytlin Pamin
Stan Mast
Gene Schafer
Dennis Conley
Mary Akey
Jake Beach

Michelle Hettick
Rob Ellis
Anne Buck
Bryan Porch
Paul McCarthy
Greg Beach
Jim Bendickson
Sophia Redmond
Ken Thomas
Carl Peterson
Sonya Yardley

August

Sharon Davidson
Kim Klemenhagen
Owen Worden

Bernie Sherman
Monty Cawker
Chris Duane
Bryan Larson
Curtis Davey
Dee Dee Moffat
Larry Rauff
Camryn Peterson
Nate Krause
Steve Longpre
Randy Rathert
Jim Dredger
Bonnie Dotz
Brittany Flemmer
Tonya Fussell
Kerin Young
Kevin Thomas

Now Hiring- Clerical Administrator Full-Time Position

DISCRPTION:

The basic function of the Clerical Administrator will be to administer accounts payable, DOT compliance and electronic log books (ELD's), assist as needed with route scheduling, dispatch, phone duties, filing, drug & alcohol testing, purchasing and accounts receivables, maintain and administer the Computer Fleet Analysis (CFA) program including all CFA data entry and reports, administer the workers Comp program and file all reports as needed, administer all state compliance reports including but not limited to the International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) and the building and grounds pollution prevention reports, maintain all fuel and fleet licenses & permits, maintain sales and marketing file & print Ad development, produce BEACHLINES" the company newsletter, assist districts with requested reports including OPI reports for state reimbursement's, assist with driver training, recruiting and YouTube video applications, drive bus as needed.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Must have (1) year general office management or business experience. Must have High School diploma or equivalent. Must have a valid driver's license and be willing to be trained to operate school buses and obtain a Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL). Must drive a school bus over designated routes as needed. Must have complete knowledge of the geographic and topographic characteristics of the community. Must have good computer skills and be able to type efficiently. Must have strong telephone technique and etiquette. Must be able to speak fluent English and communicate effectively with coworkers and the public to present a professional and positive image of the company. Must be self-motivated and have the ability to multi-task.

**Please see the office for more information
and to apply**

Look'n up the road



Please check the dry-erase board in the lounge for

changes to this calendar. Early Out: DeSmet, Target Range, Lolo and MCPS run on Early Out schedules every Thursday. Early Out schedules for Woodman are as noted below and will be posted on the dry-erase board.

The schedule for Safety Meetings is tentative. Please check the flyers that will be posted around the office for detailed information. Safety meetings are held at the Flanagan's building.

May

- 26 Lolo Last Day
- 29 Memorial Day -- No School All

June

- 1 Co-Op Last day
- 2 MCPS Pre K , Early K and Woodman—Last Day.
- 9 DeSmet, MCPS, Target Range - Last Day
- 25 Missoula Marathon

July



Please check in week of July 15 Give us a call or stop by let us know your coming back and pickup a calendar !

2023-2024 School Start Dates

- DeSmet– Aug 30th
- Lolo – Sept 5th
- Missoula County Public Schools
- K, 6th, 9th only-Aug 29
- 1st -5th, 7th-8th, & 10th-12th – Aug 30
- Pre –Sept 11th
- EK– Sept 5th
- Target Range– Aug 30th
- Woodman– TBD

Missoula Marathon

If you are interested in driving a shuttle bus for the Missoula Marathon this summer, look for a sign up sheet before the end of school. We will have 50 school buses starting at 4 a.m. on June 25th.



HELP WANTED

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER VACANCY

NOW HIRING FOR FALL

POSITION TITLE: School Bus Driver's and Attendants

Description: We offer a great part-time position that fits with your schedule! No nights or weekends. This is the perfect job for college students, retirees wanting to stay busy, stay at home parents, or anyone looking for a second job.



Qualifications and Experience for drivers include:

- Commercial Driver's License
- Free training Program-
- If you don't have a CDL, **we will train you!**

Clean driving record (no DUI or Reckless Driving)

Desire to work with kids for a few hours and make a difference!

Many people find the work very rewarding and enjoy helping make a difference in the lives of young people. Not only will you earn some extra income, you will be providing a valuable service to the Missoula Community



Inquire at:

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Phone: (406) 549-6121
Fax: (406) 549-5445

Web: www.beachtrans.com
E-mail: beachtrans@beachtrans.com



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