Nov/Dec 2024



# **MEARS IN MOTION**

Recovery, Growth and Gratitude By Rebecca K. H., Chief Operating Officer

#### Dear Mears Team,

As we close out another remarkable year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the journey we've shared together and express my **heartfelt gratitude** for your hard work, dedication, and unwavering commitment to our mission.

This year has truly been one of growth and resilience. We've faced challenges, celebrated milestones, and, most importantly, continued to strengthen the bonds that make our team so unique. Whether you've been with us for years or are a recent addition, each of you has contributed to our success. I'm incredibly proud of the progress our leadership teams have made in enhancing Mears and fostering a more supportive, collaborative environment.

We've reached several important milestones that position us for even greater success in the future. These accomplishments, among others, showcase our collective strength and ability to deliver exceptional results. We are ready for the next chapter.

#### A few Highlights of 2024 include:

- Achieving the second-largest single day in Mears history,
  February 12, with outstanding execution. On this one date we serviced multiple large convention groups and events, clients normally spread more evenly throughout the season.
- Streamlining Mears Connect to become more efficient and reliable, as well as revamping the guest experience, with notable improvements in service and overall guest satisfaction.
  Enhancements include guestexperience-focused training, streamlined route-building, better utilization of equipment, and overhauling our airport experience for arriving guests.
- Renewing long-standing contracts, reinforcing our valued partnerships.
- **Expanding service** offerings with existing partners and forging new partnerships.

### Looking Ahead to 2025

As we enter the new year, I'm excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. With a strong foundation in place, we are well-positioned to continue **innovating**, **improving**, and **growing**. Our focus will remain on **delivering excellence**, **supporting** our teams, clients, and partners, and **adapting** to new challenges.

2025 is shaping up to be pivotal for us. Alongside our Universal growth with **Epic**, we have a number of promising new business opportunities on the horizon. We're also set to place orders for **new equipment** across **multiple fleets** —something that I know has been eagerly anticipated. While it will take time to fully realize all the benefits, we're heading in the right direction.

Based on team member feedback, we are also making a significant change in how we **pay our employees.** Soon we'll be moving to **weekly paychecks**, and this will come in phases:

<u>Phase 1:</u> All **hourly** employees who are **Mears Destination Services** employees will begin receiving weekly paychecks on 01/24/2025.

<u>Phase 2:</u> All **hourly** employees who are **City Cab Company** employees will begin receiving weekly paychecks on 01/31/2025.

<u>Phase 3:</u> All **salaried** employees will begin receiving weekly paychecks on 04/11/2025.

Additionally, we'll be rolling out **new technologies** to enhance our efficiency in key areas, including accounting, cashiering, inventory, and maintenance. These improvements will extend to other functions as well, supporting our ongoing drive for operational excellence.

One more exciting development for the year ahead is the launch of our **Employee of the Month (EoM)** program, starting January 1, 2025. On *page three of this newsletter* you'll find more details about the program, but here's a summary of our **EoM goals**:

- Recognize & reward top performers
- Highlight the qualities, traits, and behaviors that align with Mears' values and objectives
- Improve job performance and employee engagement
- Boost morale
- Enhance retention

I'm confident that with your **talent**, **passion**, and **creativity**, we will continue to push the boundaries of what's possible. Together, we'll make the year ahead even more successful.

I want to **thank each of you** for your hard work, passion and collaboration. Your **dedication** has made a lasting impact on the success of this company, and I am **incredibly proud** of what we've accomplished together.

Rebecca K. H., Chief Operating Officer

# MEARS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH FAQ SHEET



#### Who is eligible for Mears EoM?

#### To be nominated, employees should:

- Have at least 90 days employment at Mears
- Be in good standing with the company
- Have zero documented counseling or disciplinary actions in the past 12 months
- Have zero safety or customer service incidents/complaints in the past 12 months
- Have zero tardies/unexcused absences in the past 6 months
- Consistently follow company rules, guidelines and protocols in their role

3

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#### How are EoM winners chosen?

A maximum of <u>two</u> employees will be selected each month: one <u>driver</u> and one <u>non-driver</u>. The Mears Employee Engagement Team serves as the EoM selection committee, and includes respected leaders throughout the company. This group will meet monthly to review EoM nomination forms and choose up to two winners.

#### Can I nominate myself or a co-worker?

Self-nominations are not possible. However if you would like to suggest a co-worker for consideration, please contact your **department leader** with details about your **fantastic colleague**! 2

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6

#### What's the nomination process?

Nominations for January of 2025 open on January 1st. Each department manager will have access to a detailed online nomination form that includes questions about the nominated employee's contributions to our collective success.

Major factors include: communication skills, teamwork, ownership, and demonstration of our five Core Values of Respect, Integrity, Safety, Efficiency & Enthusiasm.

Nomination submissions are due from department leaders no later than the **8th** of each month.

#### What do winners receive?

Each Employee of the Month winner will receive:

- An exclusive Mears EoM lapel pin
- A \$100 gift card
- Featured recognition in the Mears in Motion newsletter

(Other celebrations may vary by department.)

#### How can I learn more?

If you have questions, reach out to your department leader, **or** any of the following: Amy F., Heidi Z., Janis D., Jeff D., Jenny M., Julie J., Keri G., Kim S., Krisztina T., Kueise L., Lydia C., Lynn P., Melissa P., Philip H., Steffanie G.

Please note: This new program does NOT replace any current monthly recognition opportunities. Employees will still be eligible for Happy Customer, Extra Mile, Big Brain, Team Player/Bridge Builder, Next-Gen Mentor, Pillar, Sunshine, Big Heart, Rising Star, Pennywise, Loyalty Club & Service Hero recognition.



Joanne R. with UK-based **Dreamflight** charity recently sent this note to Jose U. in Sales:

"Dreamflight landed back in London safely on Tuesday with 192 very happy but tired children (and some tired adults too!), and I wanted to say a huge thank you for all you did in helping make our visit so smooth. It all went really well, largely because of your planning and dedication. Thanks for all your work and patience with my questions in the lead-up to our visit.

"Please also pass on my thanks to Ty and Andi and all of the bus drivers – as usual they were amazing with the children, and Ty and Andi made sure everything ran smoothly. Thanks again for ensuring 192 deserving children had an amazing holiday of a lifetime. We're already starting to plan for next year!"

#### **Special Thanks To**

Jesse H. Gerald R. Leverenzel B. Natasha S. Ken F. Richard L. Joel M. Merry M. Virginia V. Mark L. John O. Frank L. Betsy F. Chris L. Pedro G. Diego C. Angel L. Ty B. Mohamed "Mo" <u>K. A. Andi R. Michael "Elvis" G.</u>

# **CONGRATULATIONS!**



# RENEE M.

Renee has been instrumental in the success of our overnight Motor Coach Operations, and she has been promoted to **Manager on Duty**. Renee started with Mears in 2022 as a Customer Service Agent and Taxi Dispatcher, and then transferred to Motor Coach Dispatch in March of 2024, where she also took on cashiering duties. A motivated and dedicated leader with a bright future, Renee is always eager to learn new things. She says, *"I am so thankful for all the opportunities that Mears has given to me since I started with the company. Bus Operations is like a second family to me."* 

# CHARITA J.

Kudos to Safety Investigator Rita J., who recently became a Licensed Realtor. The real estate licensure exam process is rigorous, including extensive memorization of industry regulations, procedures and best-practices.



### **Congrats to these winners of our 3rd Quarter Employee Appreciation Raffle Drawing...**



Glenda T. **Special Accounts** Fitbit Inspire



Brian S. **M/C Operations Body Analysis Smart Scale** 

HARPER IMAGE HEATED NECK + SHOULDER WRAP

Jenny M.

Accounting

# TEAM MEARS: COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

## 2024 Greater Orlando HEART WALK Recap

NOV. 9 MEMORY MALL, UCF 4000 CENTRAL FLORIDA BLVD ORLANDO, FL





FUNDS raised by Team Mears: \$1,479.86 # of Mears WALKERS: 12 # of Mears DONORS: 37 RANK among local hospitality companies: #1 (in Heart Walk donation dollars) Special thanks to Melissa P., Team Captain



TOGETHER, WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

# BEST SHOT



# DIEGO C., MOTOR COACH OPERATOR

Diego captured these images while operating the overflow shuttle for KPMG in Lake Nona.

Email your Best Shot to: motion@mears.com

# SOAR IN '24 MONTHLY AWARDS

KUDOS TO THESE OUTSTANDING TEAM MEMBERS FOR THEIR RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

### **EXTRA MILE**

**ANTHONY C. M., MEARS CONNECT DOUG H., MEARS CONNECT ELVIS G., MEARS CONNECT EMANUEL G., MEARS CONNECT** FRANCO A., MEARS CONNECT FRANK B., MEARS CONNECT **JEAN L., MC OPERATIONS JORGE L., MC OPERATIONS LEVERENZEL B., MC OPERATIONS** MARIA C., MC OPERATIONS MARISOL B., MEARS CONNECT MAX K.. MEARS CONNECT **NEYCHALIZ S.. MEARS CONNECT ONEIL M., MEARS CONNECT STEFANY T., MEARS CONNECT TAKEISHA A., MEARS CONNECT TERRENCE M., FIELD OPERATIONS VIVIANNE R., MEARS CONNECT** 

#### HAPPY CUSTOMER

CRISMARIE P., MEARS CONNECT ERICKA M., CALL CENTER/SPECIAL ACCOUNTS ERIN L., SALES EVERDEAN C., MC OPERATIONS JOSE U., SALES LOURDES S., CALL CENTER/MEARS CONNECT PEGGY N., SALES RACHEL B., SALES RODNEY M., MC OPERATIONS RUEBEN S., MC OPERATIONS TERRENCE M., FIELD OPERATIONS ZULEIKA C., MC OPERATIONS

### **PILLARS**

BOB L., SV OPERATIONS CLIFF M., MC OPERATIONS EUGENE S., MC OPERATIONS JULIE J., TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT RITA J., FIELD OPERATIONS

### **BIG BRAIN AWARDS**

MELISSA P., AIRPORT OPERATIONS RON F., FIELD OPERATIONS RUBEN G., MC OPERATIONS

### **BIG HEART AWARDS**

ANTHONY C. M., MEARS CONNECT CORNELLIUSE D., MC OPERATIONS GREGG M., MEARS SELECT JENNY M., ACCOUNTING KUEISE L., MEARS SELECT MELISSA P., AIRPORT OPERATIONS YARIEL B., MEARS CONNECT

### **NEXT-GEN MENTORS**

BEATRIZ M., ACCOUNTING BEN A., MC OPERATIONS GREGG M., MEARS SELECT PAMELA W., ACCOUNTING

### **<u>RISING STARS</u>**

EMANUEL G., MEARS CONNECT EVERETT L., MC OPERATIONS JEFFERY H., MC OPERATIONS NEYCHALIZ S., MEARS CONNECT

### **SERVICE HEROES**

AHMAD I., MC OPERATIONS **ALBERTO T., MC OPERATIONS ALIX C., SV OPERATIONS ANDRICE J., MC OPERATIONS ANGEL L., MC OPERATIONS BOB L., SV OPERATIONS CADER H., SV OPERATIONS CALEB J.. MC OPERATIONS CECIL W., MC OPERATIONS CHRIS L., MC OPERATIONS CORY D., MC OPERATIONS DANIEL E., MC OPERATIONS DAVID S., MC OPERATIONS EDWIN G., MC OPERATIONS** FREDRICK W., MC OPERATIONS **FROILAN R., SV OPERATIONS GERALD R., MC OPERATIONS GREGORY M., MC OPERATIONS HENRY J., MC OPERATIONS JACK H., MC OPERATIONS JARROD G., MC OPERATIONS JEAN L., MC OPERATIONS** JOHN M., SV OPERATIONS **JOSEPH B., MC OPERATIONS KASEY S., MC OPERATIONS** LEVERENZEL B., MC OPERATIONS LUCY G., MEARS CONNECT LUIS L., MC OPERATIONS MARCELA D., MC OPERATIONS MARIO P., MC OPERATIONS MARISOL B., MEARS CONNECT

### SERVICE HEROES

continued

MD R., MC OPERATIONS NICK P., MC OPERATIONS RAFAEL M., MC OPERATIONS RUEBEN S., MC OPERATIONS SARAH W., MC OPERATIONS SYED J., MC OPERATIONS TAKEISHA A., MEARS CONNECT TANESHA B., SV OPERATIONS VIRGINIA V., MC OPERATIONS WILNEL T., MC OPERATIONS YOUNESS H., MC OPERATIONS

### **PENNYWISE**

**OSMAN I., SV OPERATIONS** 

### **SUNSHINE AWARDS**

ALBERTO T., MC OPERATIONS AMY F., ACCOUNTING CORY D., MC OPERATIONS DEBBIE V., ACCOUNTING DELROY D., SV OPERATIONS JACQUELINE W., ACCOUNTING LEVERENZEL B., MC OPERATIONS MARK F., ACCOUNTING RUEBEN S., MC OPERATIONS STEEVENSON D., MC OPERATIONS TYLER H., FIELD OPERATIONS

### **TEAM PLAYERS / BRIDGE BUILDERS**

**ALEXIS F., MEARS CONNECT ANTHONY C. M., MEARS CONNECT** ASHLEIGH A., CALL CENTER/MEARS CONNECT **AYRTON P., MEARS CONNECT BOB L., SV OPERATIONS BRIAN M., DISPATCH CARL H., TAXI OPERATIONS CHRISTY Q., DISPATCH CRISMARIE P., MEARS CONNECT DAVID D., TAXI OPERATIONS DELAIN O., MEARS CONNECT DONALD M., MC OPERATIONS DOUG H., MEARS CONNECT EARLE F., DISPATCH ELVIS G., MEARS CONNECT EMANUEL G., MEARS CONNECT EXIE S., MC OPERATIONS** FRANK B., MEARS CONNECT **GANSHAM P., MEARS CONNECT HUGH O., MC OPERATIONS** JANECIA H., CALL CENTER/MEARS CONNECT **JAROL P., MC OPERATIONS JAY T., MEARS CONNECT JEFF D., MEARS CONNECT JEFF S., FACILITIES MAINTENANCE JOSE R., FIELD OPERATIONS JOSEPH B., MC OPERATIONS KASEY S., MC OPERATIONS KIMBERLEE W., MEARS CONNECT** LEVERENZEL B., MC OPERATIONS LOURDES S., CALL CENTER/MEARS CONNECT LUCY G., MEARS CONNECT LUIS O., MEARS CONNECT

# TEAM PLAYERS / BRIDGE BUILDERS

**MARINA F., MEARS CONNECT** MARISOL B., MEARS CONNECT **MD R., MC OPERATIONS** NATHALIE M., MEARS CONNECT **NEYCHALIZ S., MEARS CONNECT** NOAH H., CALL CENTER/MEARS CONNECT **ONEIL M., MEARS CONNECT OSMAN I., SV OPERATIONS RAFAEL M., MC OPERATIONS RENEE L., MEARS CONNECT ROBERT T., CALL CENTER ROLAND M., MC OPERATIONS RUBEN C., CALL CENTER RUEBEN S., MC OPERATIONS** SAM P., MEARS CONNECT **STANLEY N., MC OPERATIONS STEFANY T., MEARS CONNECT TANESHA B., SV OPERATIONS TAWANA P., MEARS CONNECT TERI D., MEARS SELECT** TOM M., MC OPERATIONS TRUDY M., CALL CENTER/SPECIAL ACCOUNTS **VELVET D., MEARS CONNECT YARIEL B., MEARS CONNECT YOUNESS H., MC OPERATIONS YVETTE B., ACCOUNTING YVETTE S., EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT** 

### Congratulations to these members of our Loyalty Club, celebrating employment anniversaries in the Fourth Quarter of 2024

26+ Years Janice L., 36 years Tonya D., 36 years Sandy T., 34 years Angel D. R., 29 years Lydia C., 28 years Ruben G., 26 years Tim H., 26 years

> 24 - 21 Years Dennis G.

20 Years Chris L. Gerring H.

19 - 16 Years Andrew M. Beatriz M. Bill B. Carmelo G. Cecil W. Dan F. Heidi Z. Jose D. Jose G. Kenneth M. Kimberly S. Larry V. Michelle C. Miguel C. Patrick S. Peggy N. **Richard L.** Socrates C. Warren S.

14 - 11 Years David M. Erik H. Gaston G. Gilberto R. Jesse H. John O. Junior R. Luis M. Mark L. Natasha S. Philip H. Simone B. Zethro S. <u>10 Years</u> Alexis R. Froilan R. Henry J. Jaime B.-P. Pedro G. Tanaysha T. Wilfred T.

9 - 6 Years Alvin H.-A. Daniel J. David M. Francis J. Hugh I. Iran R. Jacqueline W. James L. Jean M. Jenny M. Jermmy R. Lewis A. Marina F. Paul C. **Reguy D.** Roneey D. William F.

<u>5 Years</u> Alejandro D. Alvin M. III David G.

### Loyalty Club Fourth Quarter Anniversaries, continued

4 - 2 Years Andrew G. Bryan P. Cathleya V. **Chasity G.** Cory D. Daniel E. Douglas E. Earle F. Elies T. Ethan N. Frank O. Gary P. Gerardo R. Javier R. Jennifer S. Jeremiah W. John D. Joseph T. Joshua I. Justin L. Kacev T. Keandra D. Kiara L. Luis C. Markita C. Marly M. Melissa P. Nathaniel R. Pam I. Preston C. Rafael S. **Raymond F.** Renee M. **Richard D. Robert H.** Sam P. **Stephany S.** Tyanna M. Valerie J. William B.

1 Year Amanda C. Anas A. Anthony B. Antonio F. Bianca J. Cenalio B. Cesar S. Danita C. Delain O. Denise R. Devon R. Eddie B. Floyd W. Fritzner E. Gustavo G. Hugo O. Jeremy S. John E. Jose A. Louis A. Marquise B. Michael H. Mia C. Ramashewar R. **Ricardo P.** Steven K. Valerie R.-M. Velvet D.



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MEARS Transportation Group.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!

If you have any content ideas or beautiful images/ short videos for Mears Transportation's social media pages, you can upload them at the link below!

#### https://forms.gle/U2HFess6sdZQKAHB7



Now you have THREE ways to submit your ideas for Mears Transportation Group's social media channels:

- Go to the "Mears Transportation Employees
  News" <u>Facebook Page</u> for the link to submit your content
- OR: In your <u>browser</u>, type this address to submit via <u>Google</u>: <u>https://forms.gle/oLi1a9dQW</u> <u>E8DQYMr7</u>
- OR: If you don't have a Facebook or Google account, you can <u>email</u> your photos and short videos to <u>marketing@mears.com</u>

17

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Note: Contractual limitations don't allow us to post content featuring our contracted partners' fleets or business, Ex: Universal Orlando, etc.



# Happy Holidays!

