

# Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities Gazette

Driving the way toward energy independence

Volume 02 Issue 06 November 2012

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## Odyssey Day 2012

The 3rd Annual Odyssey Day event was held again this year at the Community College of Allegheny County – West Hills Center. “This year’s event was structured a little differently than the events of the past two years,” stated Rick Price, Executive Director of Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities, the organization that holds the event each year. “This year we had four concurrent breakout sessions in the morning and four in the afternoon, organized by technology. This year we partnered with Sustainable Pittsburgh to provide sessions on air quality

with reference to alternative fuels, technology, and regulations.” Over 150 people attended this year’s event. Attendees were able to talk with more than 20 vendors, and over alternative fueled vehicles were on display for attendees to see.

The morning started off with a welcome by Dr. Donna Imhoff, Campus President, North Campus and West Hills Center, CCAC. She stated that she is amazed at the different technologies

# Odyssey Day 2012 (cont.)

and vehicles that are brought to Odyssey Day each year. Rick Price then gave a brief overview of DOE and its Clean Cities initiative with a goal of 2.5B gallons of petroleum displaced by 2020. Rick also showed a presentation about a couple who were

driving a CNG Honda Civic across the U.S. and who would be in Pittsburgh the next day. The next presenter was Mike Lickert of Giant Eagle in partnership with representatives from Volvo who were in town to deliver the first off the assembly line CNG 11.9L Volvo Class 8 Tractor to Giant Eagle.

This special vehicle was also on display at the event. Tegas Gosai from All Energy Now closed the first session by defining the word odyssey as a journey and stated that is what we are all experiencing - a journey toward alternative fuels. He also talked about All Energy Now as well as The MarcellesShale.com and The UticaShale.com websites.

The morning breakout sessions included presentations on Gaseous Fuels (speakers Will Freeman of Chesapeake, Dave Dudo from Beemac Trucking, Robert Mullin of Cleopatra Resources, and Gary Flannery from Washington Honda. The Bio-Fuels

Breakout included Colin Huwylor of Optimus Technologies and Brent Burich from Blue Diamond. The Hybrid/EV presentations was provided by Chuck Procoffe of the Port Authority, Bill Burns from South Park Mitsubishi, and Robert Wareham from Day Automotive. The Air Quality Improvement session included Mike Lick-

ert speaking about their Idle Reduction Program, Cynthia Perthuis of Idle Air discussing Truck Stop Power Service, Carol Barrett of Keen Transportation discussing Idle Reduction, and Lisa Kay Schweyer telling the group about Commute Pittsburgh.

Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald provided the lunchtime keynote and spoke about how the County views the use of alternative fuels. He talked about having driven the CNG Honda Civic and how he would like to see the County move to using alternative

fuels. After his presentation, the County Executive had a chance to drive CNG One Source's Bi-fuel F150.

The afternoon included a Propane session with Ron Schramm of ProGas, Jim Wiehagen of Amerigas, Jim Titus of Bluebird of Pittsburgh,

and Tim Hooker from FYDA Freightliner. The Hybrid/EV session included Samuel Gonzales of Eaton and John Kapp of Leviton discussing EV Charging Stations. At the Bio-fuels presentation Rick Price from PRCC and Bob Koch from CCAC teamed up to talk about Flexifuel vehicles and the use of E-85. The after-

noon's Air Quality session had Scott Bricker from Bike Pittsburgh, Rachael Filippini, from GASP, Tom Kennedy from UPMC and Stephen Smith from CMU's Traffic 21 project talked about their respective programs.



Pro Gas Propane Refueling Station



Propane Lawnmower

# Member Spotlight: Bob Beatty

Bob Beatty is Founder and managing partner of “O” Ring CNG Fuel Systems, L.P. He is a proven expert in the field of compressed gases as well as compression and storage systems. With 26 years in the field as the former president of “O” Ring & Associates, Inc., a related compressed gas company, clients are assured they are in good hands with Bob attending to their unique CNG needs.

Bob is certified by the Natural Gas Vehicle Institute (NGVI) of America in both CNG Fuel Station Design and Construction and CNG Fuel Station Management. He has extensive experience with compressed gases as a technician, system designer, consultant, sales manager, and distributor for several major international compressor brands.

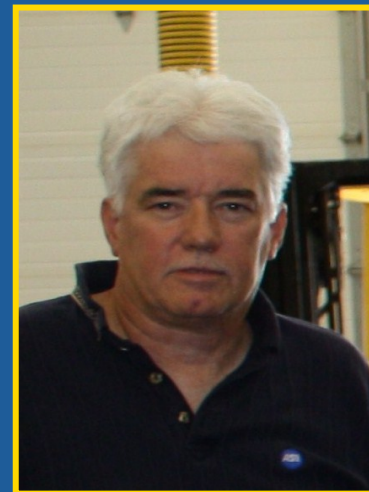


As the owner of several natural gas wells, Bob practices what he preaches. He has personally converted everything possible in his home and business to CNG. From heat, to electric, to cooking fuel, to lawn mowers, forklifts, as well as all business and personal vehicles, he has achieved energy independence both personally and professionally and is eager to help others realize the benefits of natural gas.

Bob has a vision. He believes in working towards energy independence in America. He believes in reducing our collective carbon footprint to protect our environment for future generations. He believes in saving costs locally to boost our own economy and help employ Americans. He is always willing to help promote alternative fuels.

# CCAC Completes Responder Training

Scott Main, an Automotive Instructor at the Community College of Allegheny County – West Hills Center, recently made available an 8 hour First Responder Training on August 12th in New Castle, PA. Scott is a authorized trainer under the National Alternative Fuel Training Consortium (NAFTC) curriculum. The training was attended by 15 First Responders who learned about how to approach an EV or PHEV vehicle involved in an accident. CCAC held two additional classes in October at the Franklin Park Volunteer Fire Department No. 1 in Sewickley, PA.



# 2012 CNG American Road Trip

On October 11th the husband and wife team of Gary and Evelyn Corbitt started a trip across America in a 2012 Honda Civic Natural Gas (NGV Model) provided by American Honda.

Their objective was to travel from Santa Monica, CA to the Boardwalk in Atlantic City, NJ, and back again using public access CNG refueling points. A Civic GX cross-country road trip was last completed in 1998 as a promotion for the 1998 Honda Civic GX. However the purpose of this adventure was to try to capture the attention of the national press and help to drive public awareness of the benefits and advantages offered by owning and operating vehicles powered by clean, domestic fuels, such as compressed natural gas.

This 7,200+ mile plus round trip was tied into the national kick-off press event for National Alternative Fuels Odyssey Day 2012 held this year in Indi-



Evelyn and Gary Corbitt

anapolis, IN, and took advantage of local Odyssey Day celebrations. All activities and press events were done in coordination with Clean Cities Coalitions in various cities across the country.

The Corbitts pulled into Pittsburgh about 5:30PM on October 19th, and PRCC Executive Director Rick Price took them to dinner on Mount Washington. The next morning the Corbitts were at a photo shoot at the EQT station on Small Street, and then they were off for a refuel in State College, PA.

To learn more about their trip across America, go to:

<http://cngchat.com/forum/showthread.php?9754-Clean-Across-America-amp-Back-2012-CNG-Road-Trip>

<http://cngtravels.me/author/elcorbitt/>

## UPMC Opens EV Charging Stations

The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center has opened six new charging stations at three different locations. They now have two each at the new UPMC East in Monroeville and at the Montefiore and Presbyterian garages.

UPMC is a participant in two of the grants awarded to Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities through the PA Department of Environmental Protection's Alternative Fuel Incentive Grant Program. UPMC plans to also put charging stations at Shadyside and McGee hospitals and additional stations at the Montefiore and Presby garages.



EV Chargers at UPMC Presbyterian Garage

# Eaton Installs DC Fast Charge Station

Eaton Corporation has installed their first DC Fast Charging station at their Warrendale, PA, facility. The new installation was partially supported by a grant through Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities from the PA Department of Environmental Protection, Alternative Fuel Incentive Grant Program. The charger was one of forty five new stations installed under the 376 EV Corridor Phase II Project. “There will be forty four level II stations along with this DC Fast Charger in the region,” stated Rick Price, Executive Director of Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities. “Under Phase I we installed nine Level II chargers with one at Bayer Corp, two each at Eaton’s Cherrington and Warrendale facilities, as well as two each at UPMC’s Presbyterian and Montifiore Hospital garages.”

“Between Phase I and II EV grants, we will have fifty four stations installed at completion of these awards. These along with stations installed by Giant Eagle and CMU will bring the total to seventy two stations. This isn’t even including the stations being put in by others. I would look for over 100 stations by 2014,” states Rick Price.

To find out more about electric vehicle charging stations go to <http://www.afdc.energy.gov/locator/stations/>



Eaton Level II Chargers at Warrendale, PA



Eaton DC Fast Charger

## National Clean Diesel Rebate Program

The Environmental Protection Agency has announced its 2012 School Bus Replacement Funding Opportunity Pilot. The Rebate Program opens November 13, 2012 and closes December 14, 2012.

The 2012 School Bus Replacement Funding Opportunity provides rebate incentives to selected eligible applicants to replace school buses powered by model year engines ranging from 1994 to 2003 with

new buses powered by a certified 2012 or newer model year engine, or operate solely on electricity. Eligible replacement school buses may operate on conventional diesel (ULSD), battery or hybrid drivetrains, or alternative fuels.

To find out more go to:

<http://epa.gov/cleandiesel/dera-rebate.htm>

# Green Fleet Sustainability All-Stars

For the second year in a row, Green Fleet Magazine recognized individuals who made a significant difference in environmental responsibility with Sustainability All-Star designations at the 2012 Green Fleet Conference and Expo. Amid the 40 winners, seven are fueling with propane autogas technology developed by ROUSH CleanTech.

Representing city governments that are finding success with propane autogas, Maraskeshia Smith, deputy director of fleet services for City of Cincinnati, was named a Sustainability All-Star for saving the city 40,000 pounds per year in carbon dioxide emissions with propane autogas vehicles. The City of Cincinnati started incorporating ROUSH CleanTech Ford F-series pick-up trucks into their fleet in 2010 as part of their climate protection action plan with the help of a Clean Cities Coalition grant through Clean Fuels Ohio. Not only have they reduced emissions, Smith reports a \$1.06 average per gallon savings with propane autogas.

Showcasing that propane autogas is the right solution for business owners, Green Fleet Magazine chose Tom Hopkins, central warehouse and logistics department head for Wright & Filippis in Detroit, as a Sustainability All-Star for transitioning nearly 30 percent of his delivery service fleet to propane autogas, in part with grant money provided through the Ann Arbor Clean Cities program. Wright and Filippis is eliminating 931,200 pounds of carbon dioxide from their carbon footprint each year by running ROUSH CleanTech Ford E-series vans fueled by propane autogas. Tom Armstrong, director of fleet for ThyssenKrupp Elevator headquartered in Alpharetta, Ga., was acknowledged for his role to operate 10 percent of the company's fleet

(or 300 vehicles) on propane autogas by 2015. Tom developed the "Five C's" protocol to evaluate alternative fuels, which is serving as a model for other companies. ThyssenKrupp's propane autogas vehicles currently run in Phoenix, Seattle, Los Angeles, San Diego and Detroit.

School districts that have switched to Blue Bird school buses featuring the ROUSH CleanTech propane autogas system were also recognized with All-Star designations for significant emissions and cost reduction for their communities. Ronald Latko, director of transportation and fleet management with Mesa Unified School District in Arizona operates 27 school buses on this alternative fuel, while Mark Swackhamer, senior manager of fleet operations transportation services for Houston Independent School District, has adopted both school buses and vans fueled by propane autogas, reducing the district's diesel use by more than 70,000 gallons in the first year alone.

Rounding out the list of ROUSH CleanTech customers were two airport transportation executives who chose propane autogas to transport their customers with a cleaner ride. Ronald Bast, president of GO Riteway, operates 65 percent of his airport shuttle fleet on alternative fuels, and Robert Hann, president of GO Airport Express, fuels 60 percent of his vehicle fleet with alternative energy.

In addition, GO Airport Express was recognized with the Propane Autogas Fleet Award, presented by the Propane Education & Research Council.

## CMU Holds EV Open House

On October 17th the Carnegie Mellon University Charge Car Garage held an open house to show a presentation of “The Revenge of the Electric Car.” The event was highlighted by the introduction of a group of engineers from Ford who were putting four Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV), three Ford Fusions, and one Ford CMAX through their paces in Pittsburgh that week. This was the second time Ford has been to Pittsburgh for EV testing. They use the CMU Charge Car Garage as a place to recharge in the evenings. These vehicles will be on the market in 2013.

CMU provided popcorn and drinks for all attendees. To learn more about the CMU Charge Car Garage go to: <http://www.chargecar.org/>



PHEV and EV at CMU EV Chargers

## Tesla EV Named 2013 Car of the Year

The Tesla Model S has been unanimously selected as the 2013 Motor Trend Car of the Year. The vehicle, manufactured in the U.S., is the first vehicle not powered by an internal combustion engine to win the Car of the Year award in the 64-year history of the magazine’s publication.

The Tesla offers three lithium-ion battery packs for the Model S that are designed to provide ranges of 140, 200, and 265 miles. The 2012 model has an EPA combined city and highway rating of 89 miles-per-gallon equivalent.



Tesla Model S

## PA Clean Diesel Grant Program

The PA Clean Diesel Program is a funding program with a goal of reducing pollution from new diesel engines to improve Pennsylvania’s air quality. This funding opportunity is available to public and private organizations that have diesel-fueled fleets, specifically highway and non-road vehicles. Project funds can be used to replace, re-power, or retrofit fleet vehicles to lower emissions of pollutants; purchase and install idle reduction technology; or purchase clean alternative fuel fleet vehicles.

Funding Available: Up to \$177,611

Applications Due: December 19, 2012

For more information go to:

<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/airwaste/aq/cars/retrofit.htm>

## PRCC Receives Conservation Award

The PA Clean Diesel Program is a funding program with a goal of The Ohio River Watershed Celebration awarded Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities' Executive Director Rick Price the 2012 Conservation Award. As Executive Director of Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities, Rick Price has fostered the growth of alternative fueling infrastructure and vehicles. He is very knowledgeable about the field and has helped educate others through his outreach activities.

Thanks to his tireless efforts on behalf of the DOE Clean Cities program and his eagerness to promote collaboration, he has helped to encourage the use of alternative fuels in the southwest region. Rick has established partnerships with government at every level, utility providers, alternative fuel users, automotive vehicle providers and upfitters, researchers, colleges, business and community groups.

Rick is always willing to help, and has likewise volunteered his time to work with other entities across the state to help them with their efforts.



FYDA Freightliner Bi-Fuel Pickup



Clean Across America CNG Honda Civic

## Membership

Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities is always looking for new members! Our job is to help you understand the value and importance of converting to alternative fuels. We can tell you about the incentives available to you for using alternative fuels. We can help guide you through making smart financial and environmental choices about purchasing an alternative fueled vehicle or using an alternative fuel. Become a member, and we can help you assess your fleet and objectives, as well as work with you to acquire funding assistance. If you would like to join and/or volunteer, please contact Rick Price at [coordinator@pgh-cleancities.org](mailto:coordinator@pgh-cleancities.org)

## Contribute Your News!

We want to showcase your news and successes, and we welcome ideas for articles. Please feel free to contact Rick Price, Executive Director/Coordinator, at 412-735-4114 or at [coordinator@pgh-cleancities.org](mailto:coordinator@pgh-cleancities.org)

## Board of Directors

### Meeting Schedule for 2013

January 9, 2013

April 3, 2013

July 3, 2013

October 2, 2013



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