



“NEWS & VIEWS”

A publication of The Machinery Haulers Association, Inc.

tmha@machineryhaulers.org www.machineryhaulers.org @TMHAINC

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Only 18 Days Until the 2019 TMHA Annual Meeting



The 2019 TMHA Annual Meeting is only 18 days away! TMHA has not been to Las Vegas for a number of years, so it will be good to get back and we're looking forward to it. Frankly, we're enthusiastic about this meeting and we are excited about presenting it to you.



We've got an event planned that should rival any previous TMHA annual meeting. Our traditional Social/Dinner Event will be held Friday evening, March 8 at the beautiful Eiffel Tower Restaurant. With fare sure to please, and with floor to ceiling windows all around, it should be an evening to remember. If you're looking for that "Vegas experience" and want to experience "Vegas lights," here's the opportunity.



The meeting will be on Saturday, March 9. We've put together what we feel is an exceptional line-up of speakers whom we're sure you will enjoy. Confirmed speakers, in order of appearance, are: Barry Pottle (ATA's Chairman of the Board, the #1 spokesman for the trucking industry), David Heller (VP of Government Affairs at TCA), Beth Carroll (Managing Principal of the Prosperio Group), Bruce Chan (VP & Sr. Analyst at STIFEL Financial Corp.), and Brad Klepper, Esq. (President of Drivers Legal Plan). Look forward to some interesting, timely, and helpful information from this group of speakers.

If you have not registered for the meeting, you still can. Meeting registration and room reservations can be made from the Home page of the TMHA website at www.machineryhaulers.org We're pleased that registration for this meeting has been strong and we're anticipating a great turnout of both Motor Carrier and Allied members. We'll see you in 'Vegas!

TMHA Wants to Thank its Annual Meeting Sponsors

One of the great things about TMHA is the way its members step up and contribute of their time, personnel, and financial resources to support the Association and help us do what we do. The upcoming Annual Meeting is no exception to that theme as no fewer than three members have stepped up to sponsor portions of the meeting. We want to recognize and thank those great folks in this publication so you will know who they are and can be certain to give them your personal thanks and appreciation when you see them at the meeting. Shown below are those generous sponsors. Thank you, Tim Sulentic, Heather Johnson, Bob Terneus, and Dave Gallano, respectively!

Transport Permits of Des Moines, Inc. – Sponsor of the Social portion of the Social / Dinner Event

Landstar Transportation Logistics – Sponsor of the Breakfast and the Meeting Booklet

EFS – WEX, Inc. – Sponsor of the Luncheon

Gallano Trucking, Inc. – Sponsor of something new for all members. Find out at the meeting!



Diamond & Warren IC's vie for TCA's 2018 Owner/Operator Award



We ran an article on this last month, but it is worthy of running again in this issue too. Two of TMHA's Motor Carrier members, Diamond Transportation System, Inc. and Warren Transport, Inc., have the very enviable circumstance of having an independent contractor, owner/operator with equipment leased to their company who are



Finalists in the 2018 TCA Owner/Operator of the Year contest! That means, two of the three finalists for that very prestigious award have contracts with TMHA member carriers! This is something of which Diamond, Warren, and TMHA can be very proud indeed.

Danny Jewell (wife, Sharon) of Warren Transport and Kevin Kocmich (wife, Joy) have been selected from among the very best owner/operators from all over the country to be finalists for the award. TMHA ran an article on Kocmich last year at this time as he was a finalist last year as well. We ran an article on Jewell in September of last year as he had been selected by the Iowa Motor Truck Association as their first ever Master Driver of the Year. Both have sterling records with accomplishments too numerous to publish herein and are stand-out individuals. TCA chairman, Dan Doran, president of TMHA member carrier Searcy Specialized, said, "Regardless of who may take home the grand prize award in March, each driver has made significant contributions to the industry and should be applauded for their efforts as they're setting the finest example possible."

Jewell has been with Warren Transport for an astonishing 53 years, has amassed 7 million miles, and has compiled an incredible run of accident-free years on the road.

Kocmich has compiled a truly impressive record by operating for 27 years and more than 3 million miles without an accident. Not only that, but this is Kevin's third shot at grabbing the brass ring, a notable achievement for sure.

The winner of the award will be announced in Las Vegas the Tuesday (March 12) after the TMHA Annual Meeting there on Saturday, March 9. We know some of our TMHA members will be staying over and will be attending that exciting and emotionally charged event. We certainly wish Danny & Sharon, Kevin & Joy, and their companies the best of luck! We're proud of you!

Searcy Earns High Recognition in Truck Fleet Safety Contest



Searcy Specialized, Inc. (Harrison, OH), a TMHA Motor Carrier member, has been recognized in TCA's 43rd Annual Fleet Safety Award contest for outstanding safety performance on our nation's highways. Of the carriers which earned awards in the contest, TCA president John Lyboldt said, "We are incredibly proud to recognize and showcase these fleets, which have maintained a superb safety record through their use of innovative programs to establish a culture of safety within their companies."

It was announced that Searcy Specialized has earned 3rd Place in Division I, consisting of those carriers with fewer than 5 million miles. Searcy and the other award winners will be honored in June at TCA's 2019 Safety & Security Division meeting.

Congratulations to Searcy Specialized for earning this important award. TMHA is proud to have Searcy as a member carrier and commends them for their demonstrated commitment to safety excellence.

Bennett, Landstar & Roehl Receive Accolades from Carriers Edge

Announcement has been made of the 20 motor carriers named as the "Best Fleets to Drive For" in the 2019 contest sponsored by TCA and Carriers Edge. The exciting part for TMHA is that three of its Motor Carrier members have been honored in the contest!

Member carriers, Bennet Motor Express, LLC and Landstar System, Inc. were both named to the elite 20 and member carrier Roehl Transport, Inc. was named as a "Fleet to Watch." TMHA's having three of its member carriers honored in the top 25 carriers named is significant.

To qualify for consideration, the carriers must have at least ten trucks and must be nominated by a company driver or owner/operator. Once a carrier has been nominated, interviews are conducted with the carriers' human resources representatives and executives. The fleets are then graded in a variety of categories, including compensation, benefits, professional development opportunities and more. Driver feedback was also factored into the final scoring.

Congratulations to these fine TMHA member companies. Bennett, Landstar, and Roehl set the bar high for other motor carriers in our industry and we are proud they have chosen to be members and strong supporters of TMHA. Thank you for what you do to enhance professionalism in our industry and to enhance the reputation of the motor carrier industry.



Landstar Deliver to Win Truck Giveaway Winner Gets His Birthday Wish!



Gattoni and Villarreal

Jacksonville, Fla. (January 29, 2019) – Landstar System, Inc. (NASDAQ:LSTR), kicked off the year by giving away a truck on Jan. 24 during its Business Capacity Owner Appreciation Days event in Jacksonville. Landstar BCO, Rosemberg Villarreal of Grand Prairie, Texas, won a 2019 Peterbilt 579 UltraLoft, the first of two trucks Landstar will give away to its owner-operators in 2019.

“I received the call that I was a finalist for the giveaway on my birthday a few weeks ago,” said Villarreal. “My birthday wish, to win this truck, came true. I cannot thank Landstar enough for this gift.”

Villarreal was one of five finalists randomly selected from more than 217,000 contest entries.

The Landstar BCO Appreciation Days event is a two-day event held each year to thank the independent owner-operators leased to Landstar for providing excellence in safety and customer service. Landstar business capacity owners (BCOs), the company’s term for independent truck owner-operators with exclusive lease agreements, earned entries to win the truck in various ways throughout the previous calendar year.

Landstar President and CEO Jim Gattoni, host of the event, along with representatives from sponsor Pilot/Flying J, said, “Awarding BCOs like Rosemberg with a new truck is an honor. Each giveaway truck significantly and positively impacts an independent owner-operator’s life and business. Landstar business capacity owners are small business owners who are committed to Landstar’s safety-first culture and excellence in customer service.”

Landstar’s next truck giveaway is scheduled for July in Savannah, Ga. during the annual BCO All-Star Celebration event where the company honors its Million Mile Safe Drivers and Roadstar® honorees - the company’s most elite independent professional owner-operators.

Landstar, a TMHA Motor Carrier member, is a worldwide, asset-light provider of integrated transportation management solutions delivering safe, specialized transportation services.

Did You Notice the Updated TMHA Logo?



You would probably have to be pretty observant to have noticed our updated logo at the top of this edition of “News & Views,” but that’s a good thing. We were not seeking to re-brand our organization. We felt our brand is recognizable and does represent the organization’s theme the way we want it represented, but that the logo needed an update.

We’re TMHA, not MHA, and that’s how we want people to know us. We feel the revised truck and font help depict the strong, serious organization that TMHA is. We hope you like the updated logo, as it represents your Association.

XL Specialized Trailers Knows How to Make a Long Blade Trailer Longer

(The following article appeared recently in HDT Truckinginfo and high-lights the ingenuity applied by TMHA Allied member XL Specialized Trailers to address an issue that transporters of wind energy equipment have encountered. We hope you enjoy the article and photo.)



Wind turbines are becoming a larger factor in electric power generation. Overall, 8% of total power in the U.S. comes from wind energy, but wind farms in Texas make 15% of the state's electricity, according to one source. Those numbers are more than a year old, so are likely higher now.

Of course, the heavy and over-size components for the giant wind-driven dynamos are carried by truck to erection sites, and a convoy of those

transporters is an entertaining sight. Among other things, there are three blades per turbine, so that's three extra-long rigs right there.

Turbine blades are long, with those of one model from Denmark being 148 feet. So trailers that haul them must approach that length. What if blades to be carried become longer than what an existing vehicle can accommodate?

XL Specialized Trailers has a solution in its Flip Extension. The device is usable on XL's own BladeMate trailers and on other makes too, the company says. XL announced it last summer, but it's interesting enough to deserve a look even months later. The 27-foot extension is more of a handful than its name suggests, but with a little training, it's entirely workable for drivers and assistants. Note that the extension has no axle supports; it just hangs there. But, it apparently works, and is an example of ingenuity by people in this industry. - *(Attribution: Tom Berg, Sr. Contributing Editor – HDT Truckinginfo)*

The Last Word ... What kind of organization do you want TMHA to be?

TMHA is your organization. You belong to the Association for a reason hopefully several reasons. We want you to find benefit in being a member of TMHA. We think we have a great organization and that we offer a good product and, judging from comments we've received from many of you, you agree.

However, we're never satisfied with just maintaining the status quo. We want to continue to improve our organization and we want to continue to bring you great programs at our meetings. To help us do that, we want to solicit more thoughts and ideas from you. We need to know what you are thinking and we want to know what we can do to bring you the programs that you want to see and hear.

Please feel free to share your ideas with us. Simply shoot us an email or pick up the phone. Thank you, and thank you for being a member of TMHA.

Calendar of Upcoming 2019 Events

March 8 & 9, 2019

2019 Annual Meeting (Board Election year)

Bally's/Paris Las Vegas @ Las Vegas, NV

July 24 – 26, 2019

Safety & Security Meeting

2nd Annual TMHA Invitational Golf Classic

The Abbey Resort @ Fontana-on-Geneva Lake, WI

December 4 & 5, 2019

Regulatory, Economic & Political Symposium

Jumers's Casino & Hotel @ Rock Island, IL



It's Not Too Late to Reserve a Room and Register for the March 8 & 9 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. Go to the Home page at www.machineryhaulers.org today if you're not in yet.

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P.O. Box 338

Dysart, Iowa 52224

Phone: (319) 214-7323

tmha@machineryhaulers.org

www.machineryhaulers.org

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