



## TMHA NEWS & VIEWS

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### **TMHA Annual Meeting Promises to be a “Must See” Conference**

The 2018 Annual Meeting is coming right up and will be here before you know it. We’re very pleased to bring you the quality of program that you might expect from much larger organizations. We bring you top-quality programs and, unlike other trucking associations, there is never a charge to attend a TMHA meeting!

This year, back by popular demand, we’re bringing you another All-Star panel to discuss a wide variety of technology issues. Well-known and highly-respected safety expert, John Simms, Vice President of HNI Truck Group, one of the nation’s leading truck insurance brokers, will moderate the diverse panel. Steve Bryan, president of Vigillo, a Samba Safety company, will be one of the esteemed panelists, as will Tom Cuthbertson, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs at Omnitrac. David Heller, VP of Governmental Affairs at TCA will bring his dynamic style of presentation to bring us up-to-the-minute regarding events in the world of compliance, enforcement, and legislation. Sarah Arteaga, Regional Economic Information Network Director and coordinator of the Trade and Transportation Council of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta will share her insights to help us make sense out of some of the economic issues that will play an important role in how successful we’ll be in 2018 and beyond. And we’re not done yet! Stay tuned as we bring you more information on the great program you’ll get to see and participate in at TMHA’s Annual Meeting.

If you have not registered for the March 24 meeting at the Gaylord Palms Resort in Kissimmee, FL, please do so as soon as possible. We need to know how many to plan on for the meeting and for our great evening dinner after the meeting. We’ve also been informed that hotel rooms are filling up fast! Don’t put this off and get left out. **The combination meeting registration and hotel reservation form is available right on TMHA’s website at [www.machineryhaulers.org](http://www.machineryhaulers.org)** Download it, fill it out, and send it to [tmha@machineryhaulers.org](mailto:tmha@machineryhaulers.org) That’s all there is to it! We can’t have the best meeting we can have if YOU are not there!

## Diamond Truck Operator Kocmich a Finalist for Driver of the Year



We're very pleased to announce that member carrier Diamond Transportation System, Inc.'s independent contractor, Kevin Kocmich, is a finalist in the owner operator division in this year's Driver of the Year contest (TCA).

Kevin has distinguished himself by operating over 2.1 million miles without any violations or incidents and more than 3 million miles without an accident. He has been honored for achieving 26 years of safe and professional operation and is particularly proud of having safely transported more than 300 "super loads!" Kevin has earned three consecutive "Top Gun" awards from Diamond, their award to their safest operators. Kevin is also proud of doing his part to protect the environment by achieving an idle percentage of a mere 5.2%. Way to be "green," Kevin!

Kevin is proud to have "earned the respect and confidence of my fleet manager, safety director and the rest of the Diamond team, by making sure I arrive and deliver each load on time and provide each customer with the same level of excellent and on time service to be expected." Judging from Kevin's impressive record, we have no doubt those things are true.

We will be honored to have Kevin, and his lovely wife Joy, attend our Annual Meeting and dinner in Kissimmee, FL on March 24. We hope you'll take the opportunity to greet and congratulate Kevin and Joy. This will be Kevin's second time on the big stage as he was a finalist in last year's contest as well. Congratulations to Kevin and Diamond Transportation. We hope that this year, Kevin will bring home that top honor. We're rooting for you, Kevin!

## **Dates Set for 2018 TMHA Meetings**

Be certain to mark your calendars, not only for TMHA's great upcoming Annual Meeting on March 24, but for our other certain to be worthwhile and enjoyable meetings this year.

On August 1, 2, & 3, we'll be at beautiful Lake Geneva, WI for our annual Summer Safety Meeting. Of course, we'll have excellent speaker presentations focusing on critical aspects of safe commercial fleet operation, but we'll also manage to work in some fun and relaxing summer lake activities as well. (Hint: Golf, BBQ, and an excursion boat cruise around Geneva Lake.) If you attend only one meeting this year, this is the one to be certain you do not miss!

On December 5 & 6 we'll be at warm and comfortable, even though winter will be back by then, Jumer's Casino and Hotel in Rock Island, IL for our winter meeting. This meeting will focus on a number of areas that affect our businesses from economics, to politics, to governmental affairs, regulation, compliance, and equipment.

We hope to see you at all three of our meetings this year! Check our website and follow us on Twitter to learn more as the year progresses.

## **TMHA Campaigns for New Members and 2018 Sponsors**

Our organization is growing, and we're proud of that. We have excellent carrier member companies of all sizes that participate in association membership by attending our meetings and contributing to the conversation. We are also blessed to have great allied members and sponsors who support our organization by donating their time and financial resources.

Those core member companies and sponsors are the bedrock and foundation of our success. To sustain and grow the Association though, we need to attract additional members, both carrier and allied, as well as sponsors, of the same high quality as our current ones. Your Association management is pursuing an aggressive campaign to grow our membership base, but we need help ..... YOUR help. Each of you has friends and acquaintances at other companies. Many of those companies would be good fits for membership in TMHA. Please, when you have the opportunity, talk up TMHA to those folks. Let them know what a great organization TMHA is and how much you enjoy your membership and how it benefits you and your company. In the alternative, if you are not comfortable with that, pass their name and contact information along to us and we'll do the rest. Simply shoot an email to [tmha@machineryhaulers.org](mailto:tmha@machineryhaulers.org) or pick up the phone and call us at 319-214-7323.

We'll appreciate your assistance in helping us grow your Association.

## **Send in Your Company Announcements, Articles, Op Ed's, etc.**

Remember to send us those good things about your company that you want shared with others. If you have any announcement to make, some good news to share, an article to share, send it in. Maybe you want to share your opinion regarding a vital issue that's facing our industry such as highway funding or the driver shortage. Send it to [tmha@machineryhaulers.org](mailto:tmha@machineryhaulers.org) and we'll get it out there for you.