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long, he certainly has shown the true sportsmanship necessary to get things done and have fun doing it.

RICHARD ESPONNETTE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Richard Esponnette Memorial Scholarship is given each year in memory of member Richard Esponnette, who died while performing his duties as a professional truck driver. The scholarship is for \$500.00.



This year's recipient, **Sarah Sproul**, is a senior at Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts and is majoring in Movement Science. From this major, she plans to become a certified and licensed Athletic Trainer, as well as possibly a certified Emergency Medical Technician. She has been active in many school, church and community activities.

She said in her application, "I did not choose this scholarship randomly. I have known about this organization for several years due to my father's involvement in it, as well as his friendship with **Fred Thompson**. In addition, I participated in Mr. Thompson's "Sharing the Road" presentation in my driver's education class several years ago. Driver safety is a topic I have been concerned with, and decided to adhere to, beginning before I even attained my driver's permit. Receiving the Richard Esponnette Memorial Scholarship would be much appreciated financially, but would also be an honor considering the program it stems from."

MPDA Vice-President **Rob Fernald**, a member of the Scholarship Committee, made the presentation at the Maine Professional Drivers Association's 13th Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet, held at the Cascades Inn in Saco on October 26th. Sarah is the daughter of member **Roger Sproul**, MPDA Legislative Officer.

13TH ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS BANQUET

The Maine Professional Drivers Association held its 13th Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet on October 26th at the Cascades Inn in Saco. The attendees were treated to stories from radio personality **Bud Sawyer**, who was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening.

Many of those who spoke at the banquet had good Bud Sawyer stories to tell. He is an icon in our area and many people told interesting things involving Bud over the years. Did you know that Bud once drove a truck in a driving competition against then Governor Ken Curtis (and beat him!)?

Dan Paradee, Public Affairs Manager of the **Maine Turnpike Authority**, was the guest speaker for the evening and enlightened attendees with all the latest developments on the Turnpike. He held a question and answer session for everyone after his talk and was candid with all he could share with the group. Dan did apologize that he did not have a Bud story as he quipped that he was of a younger generation!



Some of the points that Dan spoke about were of great interest to our members. He spoke of the opening of the new Exit 7B (Dec. 3), the changing of the exit numbers to mile markers (Spring of 2004), changing of Interstate highway designations (end of next year) (the Exit 9 spur to Falmouth will have no number or name), the changeover of Transpass to an EZ Pass compatible system (beginning of 2004), New Hampshire's changeover to electronic collection with EZ Pass compatibility (next year) and the unlikelyhood of an East-West highway under the Turnpike umbrella.

He also thanked all of us for our patience with the Widening project. There are two years left on the Widening with 22 miles of the 30-mile project now complete. He also said we have a lot in common with the Turnpike Authority. "We don't get credit when it is due and get a lot of public scorn, but we are necessities to the state and the economy, as without either of us everything in the State would come to a halt".

The proceeds from the Trucking 4 Kids Convoy were presented at the Banquet. Representatives from each organization were there to accept checks from the Convoy Committee, consisting of members from the Maine Professional Drivers Association, the South Portland Lions Club, the Thornton Heights Lions Club and the South Portland Police Patrolmen's Association.

Mike Smith of Camp Sunshine accepted a check for \$2500.00, Sharlynn Parsons of Operation Liftoff also accepted a check for \$2500.00, while **Kevin Battle** accepted checks of \$600.00 each for the South Portland Police, Portland Police, Maine State Police and Cumberland County Sheriff's Dept. D.A.R.E. and Officer Friendly programs.



Special awards were presented by the convoy Committee to the following supporters of the event: WPME/WPXT Television, Northeast Technical Institute, and Old Country Buffet Restaurant in South Portland.



MPDA officers gave their annual reports and **Fred Thompson**, Manager of the MPDA ROADTEAM recapped the activities of the ROADTEAM in the past year.

The door prizes, sponsored by **Hannaford Trucking**, **H. P. Hood**, Bill's Equipment and **Yarmouth Lumber**, were awarded and the trip to anywhere in the country was drawn. Phil Patry of **Clifford W. Perham, Inc.** was the winner of this raffle. The trip was donated by CCX Express for MPDA to raffle throughout the year.

MPDA thanks the Banquet Committee, headed by **Terry Stuart**, MPDA Secretary, for putting together another wonderful evening for the members to enjoy. MPDA also thanks the sponsors of the evening, including **BOC Gases** for the program and **Jones-Hoxie Corp.** for the hors d'oeuvres.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

To all of our members and their families my wife, Linda and I want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

As most of you might know, the MPDA had a real busy year. I was checking the events calendar, and adding up the events and meetings that we either put on or attended it adds up to 57 events, not counting ROADTEAM events.

The way things are shaping up we will be just as busy in 2003. So with that said, I need to make a plea to all of the members to please come to the next general meeting and volunteer to help out on some of the up coming events. The meeting will be at the Old Country Buffet at the Maine Mall on January 11th.

The Officers meeting will start at 8am and the General meeting will start at 9am. If you chose to have the buffet you will have to tell the cashier upon arriving there.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there. Drive Safely.

Dick Brown, President MPDA

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The MPDA Northern and Southern Trailers are my responsibility as far as maintaining, inventory of each trailer. This includes scheduling of where, when, and how each trailer will be used at any given location, function or event. This has to be adhered to, as it is

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part of our 501(3)(c) process and this is necessary to be in compliance.

If any MPDA member will be moving, using or taking either trailer and/or its contents from any location, please make sure I am kept informed of this prior to you doing so.

As of November 11, 2002, both the Northern and Southern Trailers have been cleaned and inventoried. It is very important that any equipment that leaves the trailers come back to that same trailer. If any equipment needs to be repaired or replaced I will need to be contacted. I can be contacted either by phone at 207-318-7395 or email at Rhondampda@aol.com. A complete copy of the inventories for both trailers will be available for the people whom will need it as soon as it is finished.

Rhonda Nicholson, Executive Director MPDA

ROADTEAM REPORT

Seasons Greetings from the MPDA ROADTEAM.

Before I get to the news from your ROADTEAM, I need to apologize for the gap in writing a report for the MPDA newsletter. I have had a very busy summer and just haven't made the time to sit down and write the news regarding your ROADTEAM.

Now seeing as this is the last newsletter of the year 2002 I will try to catch you up on our ROADTEAM.

Your ROADTEAM has had a very busy and productive year.

Starting in January ROADTEAM members **Jim Costa, Mona Lowell, and Denis Litalien** began meeting monthly with the southern convoy committee to organize that event. In April **Dave Stuart, Dick Brown, Rob Fernald, Jim Costa, Mona Lowell, and Warren Lewis** put on a blind spot demo and media briefing at the Hollis Maine Town hall. In May **Dave Stuart and Jim Costa** did a Saco River Cable-TV Public Access Channel show with the Maine State Police on blind spots and *Sharing the Road Safely with Trucks*. This was the second of three shows Dave has done with the Maine State Police and SRC-TV.

In May Jim Costa and Mona Lowell organized and along with other MPDA members, staffed the MPDA booth at the Boston Truck Show. We had many members of our ROADTEAM along with MPDA members working at numerous company sponsored TDC's, the State TDC, and the St. Jukes Charity Challenge in Massachusetts.

ROADTEAM member Rob Fernald was very active in many of these competitions and other events.

Newly appointed ROADTEAM member **Stanley McLaughlin** stepped up to the plate and along with **Dick Brown** and Irving Smith organized the MPDA Northern Convoy for Kids. Speaking of Dick Brown he spoke to a group at the Kiwanis Club in South Portland on the subject of truck safety and sharing the road with large trucks.

ROADTEAM member **Mike Conroy** and his wife **Cherrie** took our How to Safely Share the Road with Trucks program to driver ed classes in Bangor, Ellsworth, Hampden, and Hermon, Maine on a regular basis throughout the year. Cherrie Conroy also was instrumental in contacting numerous trucking publications, local newspapers, and local TV stations, to help publicize our ROADTEAM's accomplishments.

In 2003 Stan McLaughlin, our newest ROADTEAM member will be doing driver ed classes in the Bangor area in coordination with Mike Conroy. Mike and **Ron Hutchins** also did an all day appearance at an elementary school in Bradford, Maine on behalf of the Trucker Buddy program, the MPDA, and MMTA.

Speaking of Ron Hutchins, he has been all over the state with the MMTA mobile training unit giving the Share the Road Program to numerous driver ed classes, on behalf of MPDA and MMTA.

Dave Stuart and Dick Brown have started teaching the *Share the Road with Trucks* program in Buxton and the Hollis Maine area on a regular basis.

ROADTEAM member **Mike Frith** has been working with me, Fred Thompson, in the Hallowell, Gardiner, and Richmond Maine area doing numerous driver ed classes throughout the year.

As near as I can ascertain, I have your ROADTEAM taking this very important *How to Share the Road with Trucks* program to over 1000 new drivers, and some of their parents. That means there are 1000 new drivers on the road that now know what to do and what not to do when they drive around large trucks on the highway.

I want to personally say **THANK YOU** to Dale Hannington and **Cliff Gray** at Maine Motor Transport Association for all their generous support through the supplying of materials, and the use of Ron Hutchins with the MMTA mobile training unit.

THANK YOU to **Barry Pottle** and Vickie Anderson at **Pottles Transportation** for their support, the use of clean shiny equipment, and flexible scheduling to aide Mike and Cherrie Conroy in the work they are doing in the Bangor area on behalf of MPDA.

THANK YOU to **Hannaford Trucking** for their support with equipment and flexible scheduling for Dick Brown.

THANK YOU to **Associated Grocers of Maine** for supplying **Mike Frith** and I with equipment to use at driver ed classes.

THANK YOU to Macomber Transportation for allowing me to use equipment and adjust my schedule to do driver ed classes.

THANK YOU to the Public Access Channel at SRC-TV station in Hollis and The Maine State Police for allowing Dave Stuart and his son Ryan and Jim Costa to be on the air with you.

Last but not least **THANK YOU** to all of you the members of this great association. Thank you for your support in the paying of your dues to help keep us supplied with materials to continue with our mission of educating the public. Many of you don't realize it but without that support we would be very limited in what we could do throughout the year. Well as you can see your ROADTEAM has been very very busy this past year and it looks like 2003 is shaping up to be just as busy and then some. If any of you who are reading this report would like to see first hand what goes on in the classroom please feel free to call me and I can set you up to go and sit in on a class with one of our ROADTEAM instructors.

Additionally if any of you have aspirations to do some public speaking at driver ed classes, civic groups, driver safety meetings, etc. and would like to become a part of the MPDA ROADTEAM please contact myself or Ron Hutchins and we will begin the process.

Well you see what happens when I don't write anything in the newsletter for a long time. I get started and I just can't stop. I am very proud of these fine men and women that we call the ROADTEAM.

If I have missed anything someone has done or missed a name it is not intentional. Let me know if that is the case and I will make corrections in the next issue of our newsletter.

Well that's it until our next newsletter. See you on the Boulevard and God Bless.

Fred Thompson Manager MPDA ROADTEAM

COMPETITION NOTES

NORTHEAST TRUCK DRIVERS CHARITY CHALLENGE 2002

As promised in the last issue of our newsletter, here are the winners of the N.E. Charity Challenge.

The 6th Annual Northeast Professional Truck Driver's Charity Challenge was a huge success!. 105 drivers from all over the Northeast participated on a beautiful day at the Moore Army Air Field, Devens, Mass. The event was sponsored by the 5 driver associations in the Northeast:

- Mass. Professional Truck Drivers Assoc.
- Maine Professional Drivers Assoc.
- New Hampshire Professional Truck Drivers Assoc.
- Connecticut Association of Professional Truck Driving Champions
- Champions Council of New York

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The drivers raised \$19,558 for the kids at the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. St. Jude treats children with cancer from all over the country. The hospital covers any expense that is not covered by insurance. The company sponsorships helped defray the expenses for the event. The competition consisted of 8 problems worth 50 points each. The pre-trip inspection, conducted by the Connecticut drivers group, was for a separate trophy. The Maine Drivers group handled the information tent and the award ceremony. The New York drivers group prepared the food. The New Hampshire drivers group set up and ran the Blind spot demo and the Non CDL driving challenge. The Mass drivers group handled the course setup and the equipment.

All in all, it was a busy and rewarding day. It is a great way to keep in contact with drivers from all over.

The 6th Annual Northeast Professional Truck Drivers Charity Challenge results are as follows:

Class Awards

Straight Truck

1. Pete Mesick	Air Products (NY)	300
2. Ben Zadrozny	Barrieau Moving (CT)	290
3. Neil Nogues	Yellow Freight	275

3 Axle Van

1. Roland Bolduc	FedEx (CT)	370
2. Randy DeVault	Roadway Express (ME)	335
3. Robert Vollmar	ABF (PA)	335

4 Axle Van

1. Don Herzog	ABF (MA)	345
2. Dale Willson	Retired (CT)	335
3. Steve Norbeck	Roadway Express (MA)	285

5 Axle Van

1. Ryland Hogan	Wilson Trans (VA)	355
2. Rich Sweeney	CCX (MA)	270
3. Dan Flanagan	Stop & Shop (CT)	265

5 Axle Van Sleeper

1. Dave Butterfield	Wal-Mart (NH)	270
2. Mark McClure	Domino's (CT)	270
3. Bob Sherman	Hallsmith-Sysco (MA)	260

Tank

1. Bruce Rogers	Garelick Farms (MA)	355
2. John Hazlett	ABF (PA)	335
3. Ralph Mauro	Air Products (NY)	330

Flatbed

1. Tom Quial	Marino Crane	330
2. George Dragon	Froto-Lay	245
3. Walter F. Crean III	Cristoni (CT)	235

Twin Trailer

1. Mickey Rafeal	Roadway Express (NH)	265
2. Mike Mastroanni	Price Chopper (NY)	260
3. John Reece	Jevic Trans.	255

5 Axle Dump Trailer

1. Nate Lewis	Wal-Mart (NH)	305
2. Clide Dean Herderson	Hannaford Trucking (NY)	220
3. Jim Rigney	FedEx (NY)	210

Special Awards

Top Fundraisers

1. Ozzy Bartlett	Bozzuto's Trucking (CT)	\$4300
2. John Hoffman	Hallsmith Sysco (MA)	\$2106
3. Luke Keller	Garelick Farms (MA)	\$1080
4. Jim Pearce	Pearce Family Trucking (MA)	\$900
5. Frank DeGeorge	Yellow Freight (MA)	\$900
6. Terry Record	CCX (ME)	\$610

Pre-Trip Inspection Awards

1. Roland Bolduc	FedEx (CT)
2. Albin Colon	Bozzuto's Trucking (CT)
3. Randy DeVault	Roadway Express (ME)

Retired Driver Top Score

Dale Willson (CT)

Father/ Son Team Top Score

Warren Lewis	Hannaford Trucking (ME)
Nate Lewis	Wal-Mart (NH)

Top Score Management

Peter Prizio	ExxonMobil (MA)
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Top Score Set-up Team

Bob Deslauriers	Frito-Lay (CT)
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Grand Champion Award

Roland Bolduc	FedEx (CT)
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Team Trophy

ABF (307.5)	Drivers: Don Herzog (MA)
	John Hazlett (PA)
	Robert Vollmar (PA)
	Rick Bachman (PA)
	John McGinley (NJ)
Runner up:	Roadway Express (295)

Corporate Sponsors

This competition would not be possible without the generosity of the sponsors. Our major sponsor for the past six years is FedEx. Our thanks to the following companies for their generosity in 2002:

- Hannaford Trucking
- Air Products
- ExxonMobil
- Pearce Family Trucking
- Stagecoach Trading
- Clifford Perham/Shaws
- DeMoulas/Market Basket
- CCX
- Roadway Express
- Price Chopper/Golub
- H.R. Ewell, Inc.
- Kris-Way Truck Leasing
- Ryder Trans Services
- Mid Atlantic Professional Truck Drivers Assoc
- BOC Gases
- Rim Rock Trucking
- Hauser Trucking
- Sweeney Transportation
- United Tractor Trailer School
- Polar Beverage Corp.
- Crowley Foods
- Shop & Save - Dracut
- Generators: Steve Audie & Warren Harthan
- Coastal Awards - complimentary engraving
- Gurtins Graphics - complimentary embroidery
- McDevitt Mack
- Bozzuto's Trucking
- America's Road Team
- Frito-Lay
- Wal-Mart - No Zone Trailer
- Hallsmith-Sysco

2002 MAINE TRUCKING 4 KIDS CONVOY

October 13th was the day and Convoy was the word of the day! Nearly 60 trucks and other vehicles convoyed through downtown Portland and South Portland to raise funds for local kids. Maine State Police, Portland Police, South Portland Police and members of the Cumberland County Sheriff's Dept. escorted the Convoy to the Maine Mall.

The proceeds from the 4th Annual Maine Trucking for Kids Convoy totaled \$7400.00. These funds were presented to Camp Sunshine, Operation Liftoff and the local D.A.R.E. and Officer Friendly programs in greater Portland at MPDA's 13th Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet. Representatives from each organization were on hand at the Cascades Inn in Saco for the official presentation of the funds.

Steve Mondor, a DJ from WPOR Radio did the honors of emceeding the event, which included plenty of things to do. **Charlie Mansfield** and the crew from Northeast Technical Institute put on a truck driving competition at the Marginal Way site in Portland before the Convoy started. Winners of that event were: 1) **Everett Macmaster** of FedEx, 2) **Warren Lewis** of **Hannaford Trucking**, 3) **George Bean** of **Wood Structures**, and 4) **Mickey Rafeal** of Roadway Express. While this was going on, Rhonda Nicholson, **Charlene Gendreau** and other members of the Convoy Committee

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were doing the registration of drivers. And **Dick Brown** and his crew were providing the coffee and donuts needed to fuel the drivers for the big event!

Al Ireland and his family were cooking at the Mall site for a huge barbecue to feed all the drivers when they arrived. **Dave** and **Terry Stuart** and their family also were on cooking duty, as there were plenty of hungry people.

An auction and raffle were held at the event to help raise funds. One item, donated by member **Stan McLaughlin**, a special edition Ricky Craven car, drew \$306.00 for the event. The pies baked by the Ireland family were also a big hit at auction time. It should be noted that all the money raised from driver pledges, driving competition, food sales, raffles, auctions, 50/50 and any other donations go directly to the charities. Sponsors pay all expenses so that we don't have to take any of the funds that the drivers bring in. For example: Maine Motor Transport Assn. sponsored the trophies, Northeast Technical Institute sponsored the porta-potties, Shaw's sponsored the tent, **Hanscom's Truck Stop** sponsored door prizes, Cumberland Farms helps sponsor the event booklet, etc.

The event, again this year, was a joint endeavor involving the Maine Professional Drivers Assn., the Lions Club of South Portland, the Thornton Heights Lions Club, the Maine Mall and the South Portland Police Patrolmen's Assn. all working together. The Committee would like to specifically thank the families of the committee members for supporting the activities and putting up with all the time the members put into making this event a huge success. Next year's event will be October 12th, 2003.

The Maine Motor Transport Assn. sponsored all the awards for this event, with Northeast Technical Institute taking care of the competition awards. Besides having trophies for the best looking trucks, Dave and Carol Bruneau along with **Denis Litalien** were presented with special awards for their years of service to the event.

Top Fundraiser awards were presented to Jon Jon Everett, Tim Ayotte and Peter Perry. Werner Enterprises was recognized for their corporate donations as well as one of their drivers, who traveled 2800 miles to attend the event. An award was given to the most patriotic vehicle in the convoy, which went to beautiful dark blue truck with the flag and the Patriots emblem of Perry Transport, driven by Peter Perry. **Sysco of Northern New England** was given an award for having the most vehicles in the event and Triumph Glass was presented with the Kid's Choice Award. Other winners were as follows:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Driver</u>	<u>Company</u>
<u>Bobtail</u>		
2nd Place	Rod Gerish	Hartt Transportation
1st Place	Randy Wheel	T.R. Stone
<u>Straight Truck</u>		
1st Place	Keith Seeley	KMC Trucking
<u>Tractor-Trailer/Van</u>		
2ndPlace	John Chretien	Bob's Garage
1st Place	Peter Perry	Perry Transport
<u>Flatbed</u>		
2nd Place	Joseph Lovejoy	Wood Structures
1st Place	Alan Spencer	A&S Transport
<u>Tanker</u>		
2nd Place	Brad Ring	Cumberland Farms
1st Place	Scott Carter	J&S Oil
<u>Heavy Equipment</u>		
1st Place	Ray Whittier	Auburn
<u>Antique</u>		
2ndPlace	Walter Hawkes	Shaw's Supermarkets
1st Place	Scott Carter	J & S Oil
<u>Most Unusual</u>		
1st Place	Tom Greeley	Greeley's Garage
<u>Pick-up Truck</u>		
2ndPlace	Fred & Judy Peckham	
1st Place	Kayle Spencer	A & S Transport

Wrecker

2ndPlace	Bill Verrill	Sanford's Towing
1st Place	Roger Bard	Greeley's GARage

Alternate Mode

2ndPlace	Roger Salley	Dexter Fire Dept.
1st Place	Kathy Parent	Hampton Inn

TRUCKER BUDDY PROGRAM

General Information

Trucker Buddy is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to helping educate and mentor the nation's schoolchildren via a penpal relationship between professional truck drivers and children in grades 2-8. Trucker Buddy matches classes of students with professional truck drivers.

Every week, these drivers share news about their travels with their assigned classes, and provide a format for the enhancement of the grade school curriculum in reading, writing, geography, mathematics, social studies, and history.

Since 1992, Trucker Buddy has helped educate over half million schoolchildren and introduced them to a group of caring, compassionate group of men and women, the nation's professional truck drivers.

Trucker Buddy is an award-winning program (Most Significant Service Award, Truck Writers of North America 1994, and 1997 RPM Xtra Mile Award.) Trucker Buddy has been featured in hundreds of publications and television reports including PEOPLE Magazine, Reader's Digest, Family Circle, Sci-Fi Channel, CNN Headline News, Charles Osgood File, and the Wall Street Journal.

Who can become a Trucker Buddy?

Drivers : Any professional driver with a current commercial drivers license (CDL) may apply to become a Trucker Buddy. (Driver are subject to screening.)

Teachers : Teachers must teach at a public or private school with at least 15 students in grades 2-8.

For more information, you can contact Mike Conroy at mconroy@mainepda.org or telephone at (207) 469-6035. If you would like to read more about this fantastic program, you can log onto their website at <http://www.truckerbuddy.org/>

MPDA WEBSITE AND EMAIL UPDATE

Due to the fact that Log On America (aka Cybertours) has gone out of business, MPDA had to act fast to get our website switched over to another webserver before LOA's service went down and we lost our website presence on the internet. Because of this, we now have a new website address as well as email address for MPDA information.

The new website address is <http://www.mainepda.org>, adn will have www.mpda.org in operation this coming year. Our general information email address is now mpdainfo@mainepda.org.

If you have any MPDA literature that has either the old website address or the old email address on it, would you either please make the correction or just not use them at all and ask for updated copies of whatever it is you have and/or need.

CDL FINAL RULE TOUGHENS PENALTIES AGAINST UNSATISFACTORY DRIVERS

Continuing its efforts to improve the safety of trucks and buses, FMCSA has issued a final rule that significantly strengthens the licensing and sanctioning requirements of the commercial drivers license program for truck and bus drivers required to hold a CDL. The rule became effective Sept. 30.

This final rule implements provisions of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999, and combines two CDL rulemakings proposed in 2001.

"These comprehensive requirements for those who want to drive

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trucks and buses will help ensure that our highways are safer," U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta said. "Only safe drivers should operate trucks and buses, and this rule will help make that happen."

With this final rule, FMCSA intends to make the CDL program more effective in preventing dangerous truck and bus drivers from continuing to drive. It strives to improve safety by improving the performance of drivers and removing unsafe drivers from the road.

Within three years after the rule's effective date, FMCSA will penalize states not in substantial compliance with licensing and sanctioning requirements of the CDL program by withholding Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program money. MCSAP funds provide financial assistance to states through federal grants.

The new rule allows FMCSA to prohibit states that do not comply with this rule from issuing, renewing, transferring or upgrading CDLs and from issuing hardship licenses to truck and bus drivers who lose their driving privileges. States that comply with FMCSA's CDL requirements will be permitted to issue non-resident CDLs to drivers living in states that have lost that privilege.

As a result of this final rule, FMCSA may now disqualify commercial motor vehicle drivers who have been convicted of traffic violations while operating a passenger vehicle that result in their license being canceled, revoked or suspended or of committing drug and alcohol-related offenses while driving a passenger vehicle. It also adds the following two new disqualifying offenses: driving a CMV after a CDL was revoked, suspended or canceled for operating a CMV and causing a fatality through the negligent or criminal operation of a CMV.

The regulation expands the list of serious traffic violations to include drivers who fail to obtain a CDL, driving a CMV without a CDL in the driver's possession and operating a CMV without proper class of CMV being driven or type of cargo being transported. The regulation authorizes FMCSA's chief safety officer to disqualify, on an emergency basis, CDL drivers who pose an imminent hazard, a condition that presents a likelihood of death, serious personal injury or substantial danger to the public.

The final rule requires that applicants obtaining, transferring or renewing a CDL tell their state driver-licensing agency where they previously held motor vehicle licenses. This enables the issuing agency to obtain a candidate's complete driving record.

A new requirement in the rule creates a new endorsement. Applicants wanting to operate school bus licensing programs that currently meet or exceed FMCSA requirements may continue to test and license school bus drivers.

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 established the CDL program and the Commercial Driver's License Information System to serve as a clearinghouse and repository of CDL information and traffic-conviction data. The CMVSA also requires state personnel to ensure that drivers convicted of certain serious traffic violations are prohibited from operating a CMV.

The final rule is on the Internet and can be viewed by searching for docket numbers FMCSA-2001-9709 and FMCSA-00-7382 at <http://dms.dot.gov/>.

THANK YOU TO YARMOUTH LUMBER

We would like to say THANK YOU to Yarmouth Lumber for helping to make sure this issue of *Behind the Wheel* got mailed. They provided the postage and their postage meter to help make the emailing go smoother.

NEXT MPDA OFFICER'S MEETINGS

December 21 – 8:00am - Hannaford Trucking, South Portland, Maine - contact Rhonda Nicholson at 207-318-7395 or <mpdainfo@mainepda.org>

NEXT MPDA GENERAL MEETING

January 11 – Officers & General Meeting – 8:00/9:00am – Old Country Buffet, So. Portland, Maine - contact Rhonda Nicholson at 207-318-7395 or <mpdainfo@mainepda.org>

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"Buzzy" Hanscom

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7:00AM – 9:00PM MONDAY – FRIDAY

DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS

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Route 1 By-Pass, North & South

MPDA Calendar of Events – 2002/ 2003

(As of November 30, 2002 – Including events that MPDA or its members are involved in, or are of interest to our members)

December 2002

- 12 **MMTA Shipper's Night** – 6:00pm - Holiday Inn, Portland - contact Cliff Gray at grayc@mmta.com> or 207-623-4128
- 21 **Officers Meeting** - contact Rhonda Nicholson at 207-318-7395 or <mpdainfo@mainepda.org>
- 28 **So. Convoy Committee Meeting** – Old Country Buffet Rest., Maine Mall - 6:30pm contact Rhonda Nicholson at 207-318-7395 or <mpdainfo@mainepda.org>

2003

January 2003

- 11 **MPDA Officers/ General Meeting** – 8:00/9:00am – Old Country Buffet, So. Portland - contact Rhonda Nicholson at 207-318-7395 or <mpda@mpda.maine.org>

March 2003

- 16 Tentative MPDA Officers/General Meeting – location and time to be announced

May 2003

- 16 **Maine State Truck Driving Championships Set-up Day** – Dysart's Truck Terminal, Hermon – Noon - contact Cliff Gray at <grayc@mmta.com> or 207-623-4128
- 17 **Maine State Truck Driving Championships** – Dysart's/Bangor Motor Inn – 5:30am - contact Cliff Gray at <grayc@mmta.com> or 207-623-4128

June 2003

- 1 **Northern Convoy for Kids** – Bangor/Brewer - contact Stan McLaughlin at <swifttrucker@aol.com> or 207-827-7209

August 2003

- 19-23 **ATA National Truck Driving Championships** – Columbus, Ohio

October 2003

- 11 **Convoy Set-up Day** – 9:00am – Portland - contact Jim Costa <jcosta@sacoriver.net> or 207-727-5349
- 12 **Maine Trucking for Kids Convoy**, 7:00am - Portland/South Portland - contact Jim Costa at <jcosta@sacoriver.net> or 207-727-5349

(Please send any additions or changes to: Denis Litalien at 207-282-6346 or e-mail at mpdainfo@mainepda.org)

Behind the Wheel

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MPDA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting courtesy, safety and professionalism in the field of commercial driving.

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