

THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR IS
PORTLAND AIR FREIGHT

FROM THE DESK OF OUR MEMBERSHIP OFFICER



Summer is over already and school has begun. As Maine Professional Drivers, it is our duty to be alert to the school bus activity on the highways in Maine and throughout New England.

In light of the tragedy on the Maine turnpike this summer, we will be monitoring our members driving records and requiring a DMV record check on all new members. We want to make sure MPDA is not represented by unsafe, unprofessional drivers.

This year we started sending new decals out with your membership cards when your dues are paid. Please let me know if you did not receive your card and decal. I will check into it for you.

Our website has been updated again. You can now go online at www.mpda.org and update any information you need for example: name, address, phone #s, e-mail address, etc. There is also a place to include any comments, suggestions, or other info. you may have. Please be sure to include your first and last name. You can also cut out the coupon that's on page 8 and mail it in.

As always you can contact us by e-mail at: membership@mainepda.org or regular mail to: Maine professional Drivers Assoc., P.O. Box 5672, Augusta, ME 04332-5672, or call us at: 207-318-7395.

Thank you for being a part of our organization,

Pete Mortensen, Membership Officer

NEW HOURS OF SERVICE RULES

Effective October 1st, the new Hours of Service rules take effect, according to report in Transport Topics on August 19, 2005. While the Federal Motor

Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) was charged by a federal court last year with reviewing the rules and assuring that the health of truck drivers was taken into consideration, there were only two minor changes made in the rules from those adopted in January of 2004.

The new regulations maintain the current rule's limits on driving, working and rest hours. Drivers may spend 11 hours behind the wheel in a 14-hour work day but then must rest for 10 hours. The new rule also kept the 34-hour "restart" provision, which allows drivers to restart their weekly work periods by taking 34 consecutive hours off duty.

In the new rule drivers may use sleeper berths for two rest periods, of which one must be at least eight hours long. The current rule allows drivers to take two rest breaks of at least two hours.

Short-haul drivers, defined as drivers who do not need a commercial driving license and who operate within a 150-mile radius their normal reporting location, must follow the hours rules, but are not required to keep a log book and two days a week may work 16 hours rather than 14.

The rule retains features that promote a schedule closer to a 24-hour circadian rhythm by cutting the old work day from 15 cumulative hours to 14 consecutive hours and limiting driving time to 11 hours. Although driving time was increased in 2004 by one hour, mandatory rest time was increased from eight to at least 10 hours. That offers enough time, government and private industry fatigue experts say, within which truck drivers can get recuperative rest each day. The new on-duty/off-duty requirements also promote a much more regular work-rest cycle for drivers.

According to a study conducted by the American Transportation Research Institute, an American Trucking Associations affiliate, motor carriers in 2004 posted lower recordable accident rates and lower injury rates per million miles driven. The data, which represent more than 100,000 drivers operating more than 10.5 billion miles, showed recordable accidents per million miles fell to 0.68 in 2004 from 0.71 a year



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Kris-Way Truck Leasing



Kris-Way has grown from a single location in South Portland, Maine to a company that now operates nine service locations in Maine, New Hampshire, and New York



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earlier. The total injury rate, meanwhile, declined to 0.94 injuries per million miles from 1.07 injuries per million miles in 2003.

The FMCSA will conduct a transitional period of 'relaxed enforcement' until Dec. 31, so fleets and enforcement officials can update employees.



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FMCSA did not address electronic onboard recorders in this rule, but said the agency would issue a separate rule in early 2006.

From Transport Topics Online

Report by Sean McNally

TRUCK-TOLL LANES

Trucks may get their own lanes on parts of Atlanta's interstate highway system after a study by the Georgia State Road and Tollway Authority suggested Atlanta metro-area interstates would be 20% less crowded if truck-only toll lanes were added instead of previously proposed carpool lanes.

A state trucking representative praised the option - which would employ congestion pricing instead of flat tolls as a way to regulate traffic flow - while state officials cautioned that the study was only a preliminary step in the direction of truck-only lanes for Atlanta's four major interstates.

"This is the first study of its kind in the country," said Ed Crowell, president of the Georgia Motor Trucking Association. "We're excited because it's an attempt to improve efficiency rather than get money out of truckers to pay for the road with tolls."

From A Transport Topics Online

Report by Andrea Fischer



IF YOU BOUGHT IT...

A TRUCK BROUGHT IT

HIGHWAY BILL SIGNED

President Bush signed the \$286.4 billion transportation bill into law Wednesday, August 10th, news services reported.

The House and Senate voted overwhelmingly to pass the six-year highway and mass transit legislation before heading home for the August recess.

Substandard road conditions and roadside hazards are a factor in nearly one-third of the 42,000 traffic fatalities a year, officials say, and every \$1 billion in highway construction creates 47,500 jobs, AP reported.

Lawmakers left Washington carrying promises of new highway and bridge projects, rail and bus facilities, and bike paths and recreational trails they secured for their states and districts, AP said.

TRUCK PARKING

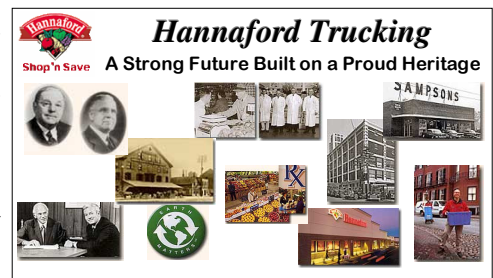
Among the money set aside for the construction of bridges and highways as part of the just-enacted, six-year federal highway funding act was \$25 million for a pilot project to increase the number of truck parking facilities along the nation's highways.

The program is to allocate \$6.25 million a year for the next four federal fiscal years, starting Sept. 30, to "address the shortage of long-term parking for commercial motor vehicles on the National Highway System," the legislation said.

The \$286.4 billion highway funding law requires the secretary of transportation to establish the pilot project in conjunction with state, regional and local governments to create a variety of parking facilities on the highway system.

From Transport Topics Online

Reporter Sean McNally



MAINE TRUCKING FOR KIDS CONVOY

Sunday, October 2 is the date for the big event this year! Bring your best looking equipment and let's have us a Convoy!!!



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Breakfast will be available at 7:00am with setting up of equipment, socializing, vendor booths, trucks on display and just plain old tire-kicking until noontime. The convoy will leave Scarborough Downs at noon and travel around South Portland and Scarborough, showing the public our best equipment and drivers. Following the convoy will be a huge barbecue, raffles, displays and trophies handed out for the best looking trucks.

All trucks are welcome, whether they are pickup trucks, fire trucks, Army trucks, antiques, cranes, tractor trailer, dump trucks, etc. You name it, we want it!

Drivers of each vehicle as asked to raise pledges of at least \$50.00 as an entry fee. All funds should be turned in at the time of arrival at the site. A registration booth will be set up, probably inside the Northeast Tractor Trailer School Unit.

Many companies that supported us last year including

Shaw's, Sysco, BOC Gases, Hannaford Brothers, Northeast Tractor Trailer School, H.P.



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The MPDA Website contains all the information you need to participate in this event as a driver, volunteer or sponsor. Go to www.mpda.org.

7TH ANNUAL NORTHEAST CHARITY CHALLENGE

MPDA is again involved in the Northeast Professional Drivers Charity Challenge. After taking a year off the event is coming together on September 25th at Devens Industrial Park in Devens, Massachusetts. Truck driver associations like ours from all over the Northeast are joining together to raise funds for St.

Jude's Children's Hospital while having fun doing it.

Drivers are asked to raise pledges of at least \$75.00 to enter the event, which includes a truck driving competition and a non-CDL driving challenge for people without a commercial drivers license. There will also be kids games, raffles, equipment displays and prizes galore.

Trophies and prizes will be awarded for the top fundraisers and there will be shirts for all participants. There will also be trophies for the best drivers in the competition. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be awarded for the driving and at least 3 trophies for the pre-trip inspection. Awards will also go to the Company with the drivers posting the highest scores, a father/son or daughter high score, retired driver high score and a Grand Champion Award.

Registration starts at 7:00am and pre-registration is encouraged. Money should be turned in the morning of the event at the registration table.

More information about this event is available on the MPDA website: www.mpda.org.

We do need someone to take the MPDA equipment trailer from Portland to Devens and back for this event. If you can handle this, please call or email Denis Litalien at 468-7373 or dentruck@hotmail.com.

2006 BIKE TREK


For those members interested in the Maine Bike Trek put on by the American Lung Association of Maine (ALAM) each year, the 2005 event raised \$1.2 Million! 1,478 cyclists took part in this ride that went from Sunday River to Rockland last June.

MPDA provided the volunteer drivers to haul the bikes to the event and back for riders who took buses




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 207-767-1692



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from various cities around Maine to participate.

For more information go to www.maineung.org for event news.

For any driver who wants to volunteer his or services for this event, you can also go to www.maineung.org, click "Bike Trek 2006" on left side, then click on "Volunteer" on left side, then click on "Register online to Volunteer". (You may want to check out "Volunteer's handbook" on this page. Fill out the information. Where it asks in what area you would like to help out, fill in the "Other" slot with the words "Truck Driver for Bus Ride on Thursday and/or Sunday" depending on which days you want to volunteer.

If you decide to help out with next year's event, you can send an email Denis Litalien at dentruck@hotmail.com so we can coordinate who will drive which trucks in the event. We will need up to 9 drivers next year. Cliff Gray and Denis are already signed up.

If you are also a bike rider and want to participate in this event, it is a very worthwhile thing to do for all the good things ALAM is doing in Maine. You can get more information and sign up for that on their website also.

5TH ANNUAL CHARITY FUNDRIVE

The Members of the Mid Atlantic Professional Truck Drivers Association also wish to extend to you as a professional driver this opportunity to join our organization and we personally invite you to participate in our 5th Annual Charity FunDrive. This year's event is Sept. 10 and will again be at Lee Hi Travel Plaza. If you are a 1st time participant we have good news. If you are the 1st, 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, or 25th rookie driver to enter and compete you will earn a \$25.00 gift card from Home Depot. The rookie with the highest overall score will win a \$100.00 gift card. We look forward to seeing YOU in Lexington, VA. Registration forms can be obtained by visiting the MAPTDA website at www.maptda.org



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TRUCK PARKING

Among the money set aside for the construction of bridges and highways as part of the just-enacted, six-year federal highway funding act was \$25 million for a pilot project to increase the number of truck parking facilities along the nation's highways.

TDC UPDATE

At press time we did not have the results of the National Championships.

UPCOMING COMPETITIONS

August 28	H.P. Hood Driving Competition Concord NH
Sept.	Charity FunDrive Lehigh Plaza, Lexington, Virginia
Sept.	Emery-Waterhouse Driving Competition, Portland
Sept.	Northeast Charity Challenge Devens, Mass.

Maine Professional Drivers Association's Behind the Wheel Newsletter

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MPDA Newsletter Staff & Contributors

Newsletter Preparation & Mailing			
Dave Stuart	Terry Stuart	Dick Brown	
Terry Stuart	Denis Litalien	Ron Hutchins	
Contributors			
Pete Mortensen			

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MPDA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting courtesy, safety and professionalism in the field of commercial driving. Articles of interest to members, advertising copy, inquiries, payments, change of address, comments, and newsletter submissions should be mailed to:

Maine Professional Drivers Association
P.O. Box 5672
Augusta, Maine / 04332-5672
Tel - (207)-318-7395
Email - mpdainfo@mainepda.org
Website - www.mpda.org

WEBSITE UPDATE

We have set up a message board on line for anyone that is interested in being a part of any of the discussion groups on topics of concern to anyone in the trucking industry. You do not have to be a truck driver to participate, everyone is welcome

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In light of recent events here in Maine, one current note of interest is a "Hot Topic" forum on *Suspended Licenses*. We encourage you to come and post your opinion on this important subject, not only to the trucking industry, but to all drivers.

This is a free service to anyone who would like to join in on any of the discussions. Go to the MPDA website at www.mpda.org/messageboard and you will be automatically on to the message board.

Register, look around, and join in on any of the forums. This is a new part of our website, so feel free to post any ideas or topics that you would like to see open for discussion with others interested in our industry.

FROM A THANKFUL MPDA MEMBER

Below is a letter MPDA President Ron Hutchins received from a long time MPDA member - he has been a member since 1991.

So if you think the Maine Professional Drivers Association is just an organization that doesn't do anything for it's members. Here is proof MPDA can and does help it's members, if they are willing to let it help them.

As you will read in his letter, he values his membership to MPDA, and attributes his success in part to the guidance and encouragement from MPDA, and fellow members, of this great organization of some of the most professional drivers in Maine and the country.



Wal-Mart

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We would like to thank all the Professional Drivers
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"SAFETY, WHAT WE'RE DRIVING FOR IN 2005"

Dear Ron,

By now, practically everyone knows that I now work for Walmart. Last Saturday I had the opportunity to stop by the Championships at Dysart's and visit with a lot of old friends. I had a great time and will always cherish the memories of serving on the ROADTEAM and the days of competition over the years.

I started to compete in 1990 at Portland and made it to every competition for the last 15 years. Over the course of that time I developed my skills as a driver and attained a degree of professionalism good enough to be considered for a job at a company like Walmart.

I want to thank everyone at MPDA and MMTA for the encouragement and insight to be the best driver I possibly can be. Hopefully I can continue to serve the industry and the association with pride and dignity thanks to you. You all have made a big difference in my life and I will always be grateful. There is no other group around that I know of that inspires excellence the way you do. Hope to see you all again soon. Thanks for the hats and the pins.

Sincerely,
Tim Estabrook



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NOTES OF INTEREST

MPDA OFFICERS & GENERAL MEETING

September 10 - 8:00AM - Old Country Buffet - South Portland
Contact Ron Hutchins at 623-4128 or <ronh@mmta.com>

2005 CALENDAR EVENTS

AUGUST

- 28 **H.P. Hood Driving Competition** – (combined company competition) - Portland & Rockingham, VT - 7:00am – Concord NH (Hazen Drive – Concord NH / NHDOT Facility) - contact Andy Reed at (603)-433-5880 or <Andrew_C._Reed@ryder.com>

SEPTEMBER

- 10 **MPDA Officers & General Meeting** – Old Country Buffet – South Portland, Me - 8:00am - Contact Ron Hutchins at 623-4128 or <ronh@mmta.com>
- 10 **2005 Charity FunDrive** (Charity Fundraiser) Lehigh Travel Plaza, Lexington, VA (I-81, Exit 195) – contact Larry Davis (336) 924-1751 or <info@maptda.org>
- 17 **Emery-Waterhouse Driving Competition** – Portland - contact Andy Reed at (603)-433-5880 or <Andrew_C._Reed@ryder.com>
- 18 **Wishes on Wheels Convoy** (Charity Fundraiser) – Willington, CT. – contact Roland Bolduc at 413-525-0764 or <roadeo@charter.net>
- 22-25 **Canadian National Truck Driving Championships** – Moncton Coliseum Complex - Moncton, New Brunswick - contact Chris McKee at 506-855-2782 or <cmckee@apta.ca>
- 24 **Charity Challenge Set-up Day**
- 25 **7th Annual NE Professional Truck Drivers Charity Challenge** Devens, Mass.- contact Fred Schenk at 508-453-3632 or <fschenk@comcast.net>

OCTOBER

- 1 **Trucking 4 Kids Convoy Set-up Day** – 8:00am – Old Country Buffet Rest., Maine Mall – contact Jim Costa at 727-5349 or <jcosta@sacoriver.net> or trucking4kids@aol.com
- 1 **Trucker's Day** – Cumberland Fairgrounds, Cumberland - Contact Ron Hutchins at 623-4128 or <ronh@mmta.com>
- 2 **Maine Trucking 4 Kids Convoy**, 7:00am to 4:00pm – Scarborough Downs, Scarborough - contact Jim Costa at 727-5349 or <jcosta@sacoriver.net> or trucking4kids@aol.com
- 23 **11th Annual N. H. Truckers Drive for Kids** – (Tentative date) - Steeplegate Mall, Concord to Hopkinton Fairgrounds – 7:30am - Contact Linda Rafeal at 603-435-6366 or <LindaRf1@nhpda.com>
- 29 **MPDA Officers Meeting** – Hannaford Trucking Office, S. Portland – 8:00am - Contact Ron Hutchins at 623-4128 or <ronh@mmta.com>

NOVEMBER

- 5 **16th Annual MPDA Awards Banquet** - Location to be announced 6:00pm - contact Terry Stuart at 727-3704 or <tstuart@mainepda.org>

JANUARY 2006

- 14 **MPDA Officers Meeting** – Cole Farms Restaurant, Gray – 7:30am - Contact Ron Hutchins at 623-4128 or <ronh@mmta.com>
- 10 **MPDA General Meeting** – Cole Farms Restaurant, Gray – 9:00am - Contact Ron Hutchins at 623-4128 or <ronh@mmta.com>



At Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan.

"WAY BACK WHEN" ANSWERS

1. Jones Motor Group
2. In 1894. Began operation as John Jones Drayage Co. under the ownership of John Jones.
3. They specialized in hauling glass, stone, milk, ice & potbelly stoves

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