



# PRESIDENTS REPORT

Well, it is getting to be that time again when MPDA starts to get busy. We have several company TDC's scheduled already and am sure there will be more before the summer is out. There is also a convoy that is being planned as I type this report. They have some new people who have stepped up to the plate to help on the committee. More help is always welcome as it takes many hands to pull off the Trucking 4 Kids Convoy each year.

Speaking of people stepping up to the plate - MPDA needs volunteers too. Yes I know - you have heard this before, but we need help more than ever.

I am very sorry if what I am going to say sounds harsh - it is not meant to be. Nor do I mean to make it sound like I am patting Terry and myself on our backs - I AM NOT!!! We have not been active in MPDA for the glory. We have been active in MPDA because we believe very strongly in what MPDA stands for and has accomplished.

I say all this because, as in other organizations there is a certain amount of burnout that takes place in running an association of this magnitude. I have to be honest with you and tell you that this is a serious issue with the MPDA. We encourage you to come to a meeting or contact an Officer and see what you can do to help keep this organization a strong one. It can only continue with the support of its members.

So please, even if you only volunteer for one event, step forward and lend a hand. You really don't realize how much it will help !!

After all, it is **YOUR** organization, and without you, there would not be an organization.

As usual... if you have any question about anything I have talked about here, good, bad or indifferent, or anything else for that matter, I encourage and welcome your calls to 727-3704 or 221-3198 and your emails to [dstuart@mainepda.org](mailto:dstuart@mainepda.org).

Until next time, be safe, be courteous, and by all means, be professional !! It does reflect on you, your company, and **your** industry.

Dave Stuart, President

# OTHER NEWS OF INTEREST

## WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU'RE PULLED OVER

As you coast to a stop on the shoulder of the roadway, you know that sick feeling - you've been busted. And now, it's time to pay. We thought it might be a good idea to share with you some advice on how to behave once you're pulled over. So, we asked a few state troopers for their list of do's and don'ts. Here's what we gathered:

**Pull over as soon as possible.** As soon as you even think that you might be the one who the highway patrol car is after, pull over. This shows that you have proper respect for emergency vehicles' right of way, and doesn't necessarily mean to the officer that you're admitting guilt.

**Always pull over to the right.** Always pull over on the right side of the roadway. On divided highways, signal and safely move over to the far right lane, and then to the shoulder. When you come to a complete stop, choose a section of roadway that has a full shoulder, without guardrails if possible. Pulling over on the left may obstruct traffic, and pulling over next to a guardrail may make it difficult for the officer to safely approach your car. Both are mistakes that won't win favor.

**Know where your paperwork is.** Normally, when a police officer first pulls you over, he/she will ask for your license, registration and insurance. If you're not well organized and keep the officer waiting while you dig through your possessions, the officer may be less likely to sympathize.

**Make the officer feel safe.** Turn your dome light on at night. Always keep your hands in plain sight. Don't make any sudden movements. Roll your window down all the way. Stay in the car. Use common sense and don't put the officer in an uncomfortable situation.


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**Let the cop talk first.** Don't blurt out things that could incriminate you. Keep your calm, even if you're upset about being stopped. Don't volunteer information, like how fast you thought you were going. The officer may not be pulling you over for what you think he is. Let him/her talk to you first. React kindly and you may have more of a chance to be sent on your way without a ticket.

**Don't argue with the cop.** Challenging the officer is a recipe for disaster, and likely means that you will be written up for the full offense and the officer will be less likely to opt for a compromise in court. So is asking to see the officer's radar-gun calibration records. If you are issued a ticket and wish to contest it, set a date in court.

Submitted by  
Officer **Kevin Battle**  
of the South Portland Police Department

## MAINE TRUCKING 4 KIDS CONVOY

This marks the 8<sup>th</sup> year that The Maine Trucking for Kids Convoy was held as a joint endeavor between the Maine Professional Drivers Assn and the South Portland Lions Clubs. After having put on separate convoys, MPDA and the Lions put all their apples in one basket in 1999 for the sake of raising funds for kids and the results have been a huge success. Since combining their efforts to form the Maine Trucking 4 Kids Convoy the Lions and MPDA have raised over **\$70,000** for organizations that help kids in various ways.

Organizations that benefited from the event this year are Camp Sunshine, Officer Friendly and local D.A.R.E. programs. At the presentation dinner, held at the Old Country Buffet Restaurant in South Portland, checks totaling **\$9,600.00** were passed out to representatives from Camp Sunshine, South Portland and Scarborough Police Departments and also the Cumberland County Sheriff's Dept. and the Maine State Police.

This year the event was held on October 1<sup>st</sup> and drew 50 trucks that convoyed through South Portland and Scarborough. The convoy portion started at Scarborough Downs and ended there. John Gendreau, a professional DJ entertained the crowd with music once the trucks arrived. **Dave** and **Terry Stuart** provided a breakfast for the early arrivals and had lunch prepared for all the participants.

Enough sponsors were recruited to cover all the expenses of the event so that all pledges that drivers brought in go directly to the kids' organizations. The Convoy Committee takes no cut from the funds that the drivers raise. Additional funds were raised from a driving competition sponsored by Northeast Technical Institute.

Driving competition winners were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> - **Dave Stuart** of Cumberland Farms/Gulf Oil
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Steve Dalpe of Jevic Transportation
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - **Rob Fernald** of Shaw Industries
- 4<sup>th</sup> - **Ryan Stuart** of Coca-Cola

Special awards and prizes were presented to those drivers who raised the most funds for the event. This year, the awards, sponsored by Maine Motor Transport Assn., were presented to Sue Civiello, representing **Portland Air Freight** and USF Express. Sue raised \$2,000.00 and was presented with a CB radio and antenna setup for her efforts. Jim Shuck of Oakhurst Dairy was also recognized for raising \$705.00 while Branch Brook Transport of Arundel raised \$660.00.

Each year the Convoy Committee also recognized two committee members and two companies who have gone over and above to help the event. This year Diane Longley and Steve Mondor were recognized while **Hanscom's Truck Stop** and Maine Motor Transport Association were presented with recognition plaques for all their support of the event over the years.

Awards sponsored by Maine Motor Transport Association, for the best looking vehicles in the convoy were presented. The awards are as follows:

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Bobtail - 2nd	Pete Burrows	United Van Lines
Bobtail - 1st	John Hughes	Branch Brook Transport
Straight Truck - 2nd	James Shunk	Oakhurst Dairy
Straight Truck - 1st	Ed Ricker	Branch Brook Transport
Tr-Trailer/Van - 2nd	Mike Swallow	UPS Freight
Tr-Trailer/Van - 1st	Brian Beote	R.C. Moore
Tanker - 2nd	Gary Whittier	Branch Brook Transport
Tanker - 1st	Tom Doody	Branch Brook Transport
Heavy Equipment - 2nd	Bobby Banville	Casco Bay Transport
Heavy Equipment - 1st	Mike Sanfy	Maietta
Antique - 1st	Mark Nilsen	Poland Spring
Most Unusual - 2nd	Bryan & Banville	Casco Bay Transport
Most Unusual - 1st	Bob Raymond	Showtime
Pickup Truck - 1st	Tim & Pauline Hauck - N Smithfield, RI	
Flatbed - 2nd	J Doane	J Doane Trucking
Flatbed - 1st	Rodney Frenette	Casco Bay Transport
Wrecker - 2nd	Bubba Stewart	R. Stewart Trucking
Wrecker - 1st	Ron Bozzuti	Maietta
Alternate Mode - 2nd	Dan Pushor	Casco Bay Transport
Alternate Mode - 1st	Richard Horton	
Kids Choice	Ken Doane	Jevic Trans
Vehicle traveling furthest	to attend:	
	Pete Burrows - 1700 miles	
Company with most vehicles:		
	Branch Brook Transport &	
	Casco Bay Transport -	
	5 Vehicles each	
Most Patriotic:	Paul Beote	H.P. Hood

The committee thanks all past members and those who continue to put their wholehearted efforts in making this a fun, interesting and charitable day. More information can be found at [trucking4kids.mpda.org](http://trucking4kids.mpda.org)

## NORTHEAST CHARITY CHALLENGE

We had a beautiful weekend for the 8th Annual Charity Challenge. Go to Connecticut Professional Drivers Association website [webpages.charter.net/roadeo/](http://webpages.charter.net/roadeo/) and scroll down to Charity Challenge. Roland Bolduc has all the scores in place for viewing and printing.

We had a total of 61 drivers participate. We also had 25 companies sponsor either money or product.

The total gross receipts are approximately \$26,500. (Driver contributions were \$14,339) With our expenses at approx \$15,500 that leaves a net contribution of \$11,000.00. A complete mailing will be sent to all participants as soon as all the expenses are calculated and revenues received.

Each year 4 companies and 4 individuals receive special recognition for their continued support.

### 2006 Companies:

FedEx, Air Products & Chemical of NY, Exxon/Mobil and Price Chopper/Golub of NY,

### 2006 Individuals:

**Bill & Barbara Pooler** (NH & FL), **Mickey & Linda Rafeal** (NH), **Jim Hosey** (CT) and **Jim Dolliver** (MA)

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<p><b>Maine's Largest Independent Truck Leasing Company</b></p> <p>Ten Service Locations in Maine, New Hampshire, and New York</p> <p>43 Hemco Road, South Portland, ME 04106 207-799-8493 www.kris-way.com</p>  	 <p><b>24 / 7 Service</b></p> <p>Expedited Service Division Local Division Regional Division Short &amp; Long Haul Divisions Air Freight Division</p>  <p>P.O. Box 730, Scarborough, Maine 04070-0730 207.510.6900, Toll Free 800.775.4091</p>	 <p><b>Hannaford Trucking</b> A Strong Future Built on a Proud Heritage</p> 
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Winners in each of the driving classes are as follows:

2-Axle Straight Truck - Randy DeVault, Roadway (ME)

3-Axle Straight Truck - Bob Deslauriers, Frito-Lay (RI)

3-Axle Van - Roland Bolduc, FedEx Express (CT)

4-Axle Van - **Denis Litalien, Clifford W. Perham/Shaw's** (ME)

5-Axle Van - Junior Noel, Roadway (MA)

5-Axle Sleeper - Jack Cronin, Stagecoach Trading (MA)

5-Axle Tank - Mike Wier, Yellow Transportation (NY)

5-Axle Flatbed - Ken Meyer, Yellow Transportation (NY)

Twin Trailers - Jim March (PA), Ed Moore(NY), Yellow Transportation (tie)

Father/Son Award - **Warren Lewis, Hannaford and Nate Lewis, Wal-Mart** (ME)

Retired Driver - Robert Lyman (NY)

Team Trophy - Yellow Transportation

Top Management Trophy – Jim Dolliver, Adaptive Driving Program (MA)

Top Setup Team Score – Doug Francey, Atlantic Plant Maintenance (MA)

Grand Champion - **Denis Litalien, Clifford W. Perham/Shaw's** (ME)

Many Thanks to the Charity Challenge Committee for their help and dedication during the year:

**(Fred Schenk, Event Chairman (MA))**

Bob Darling, Vice-Chair (MA)

Don Herzog, Treasurer (MA)

Nick Schenk, Scoring & Program Book (MA)

**Denis Litalien, Trophies - Award Ceremony - Equipment (ME)**

Jim Dolliver, Announcer (MA)

Candy Daring, Kids activities (MA)

**Mickey & Linda Rafeal, Blind Spot Demo, Raffle (NH)**

**Nate & Anna Marie Lewis, Raffle (ME)**

Jim Hosey , Pre-Trip & Course (CT)

**Warren & Claudette Lewis, Written Test (ME)**

Al Charbonneau & The New York Team, Food Tent (NY)

Roland Bolduc , Course Steward & Awards Announcer (CT)

**Pete Mortenson & Dave Stuart, Website Design and Maintenance (ME)**

This was the smallest turnout we have had for this event. But it did not in any way affect the camaraderie and good will of those that attended. It was great to see so many friends & acquaintances, even if it is only once a year. An event of this size takes many months

of planning and time. The above mentioned committee has my undying thanks for their efforts. Without the companies that helped financially and with equipment and merchandise, this event would not be possible.

Frank DeGeorge was injured earlier this year and has been out of work. He could not make this year's event. But I just want to say thanks to Frank and his partner Ed Moore from Yellow Freight for asking so many of their drivers to participate. And participate they did, winning the Team trophy for the 2nd straight year. Also special mention to Kenny Doane. He did the same with his company and drivers, Jevic Transportation, bringing in 8 drivers and sponsorship.

The following drivers have attended every Charity Challenge since we began in 1997: Roland Bolduc, Jack Cronin, Bob Darling, Jim Dolliver, Doug Francey, Don Herzog, **Nate Lewis, Warren Lewis, Denis Litalien**, Bob Lyman, **Everett MacMaster** Ralph Mauro, **Pete Mesick**, JR Noel, Bruce Rogers, **(Fred Schenk,)** Mike Shea, Dale Wilson, & Karen Tierney (now from WV). There are many others that have missed only one, but the above mentioned are a special list.

The Saturday night hospitality get together was the idea of Denis Litalien. It was definitely a hit. About 45 drivers and wives attended.

This event is a fundraiser for St Jude Children's Research Hospital. Our net contribution now for the 8 years is just a tad over \$150,000.00. Certainly an incredible amount that all can be proud of. A large piece of this total is the effort of Ozzy Bartlett, of Bozzuto's in Connecticut. Ozzy is responsible for \$20,000 of our total amount. He is followed by John Hoffman for Hallsmith-Sysco (MA).

St Jude representative, Erin Blue, was completely impressed by the professionalism and skill of this amazing group of drivers. (I think she had a whole different respect for truck driving in general after taking the Blind Spot Demo and then driving the NON CDL course.)

And last but certainly not least my son, Nick for his time on the Program Book and the set up and running of the scoring program.

Thanks to all for you support and participation.

*Sincerely,*

**Fred Schenk, Chairman**

## FMCSA PROPOSES MEDICAL CERTIFICATION CHANGE

Transport Topics Online Staff Reporter Sean McNally also reports that trucking officials offered cautious support of the long-awaited and anticipated federal proposal to merge the medical certification that drivers must obtain before operating a large truck with a state-issued commercial driver license.

The regulation, published by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration in the Nov. 16 Federal Register, would satisfy the requirement — set forth in the 1999 law creating the truck safety agency — to have FMCSA require state licensing authorities to insert information about a driver's medical fitness within the Commercial Driver License Information System. CDLIS is the electronic system that contains driver information for use by licensing and enforcement officials.

"This was anticipated, due to a statutory requirement, and we're going to be working with our members with licensed drivers in those states that have already merged the processes to identify any problems in an effort to correct them in the final rule," said David Osiecki, vice president of safety, security and operations for American Trucking Associations.

## STATES SEEK NTDC RULE CHANGE TO MAKE ALL DRIVERS ELIGIBLE

Neil Abt, News Editor for Transport Topics Online, reports that state trucking executives said they were hopeful American Trucking Associations would soon change the eligibility rules governing the annual National Truck Driving Championships to once again allow all state champions to compete.

The Trucking Association Executives Council, made up of state executives, passed a resolution in late October that, if approved by ATA, would allow states to decide whether their own championships are open to drivers of nonmember companies, with all winners automatically qualifying for the NTDC.

Currently, states can determine whether their championships are open to nonmembers, but nearly all drivers from non-ATA-member companies are ineligible for the NTDC.

## OOIDA OPPOSES SPEED LIMITER IDEA

The Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA) says the announcement on Jan. 26 that the Department of Transportation will consider requiring speed limiters on large trucks is "just one more example of how big business controls the national agenda to the detriment of many."

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration are considering petitions requesting the government to require speed limiters be set at 68 mph and not tampered with.

NHTSA and FMCSA are requesting comments on petitions for rulemaking from the American Trucking Association (ATA) and Road Safe America and a group of nine motor carriers. The petitions request devices that would limit the speed of certain trucks and prohibit owners and operators from adjusting the speed limiting devices as a safety measure.

"Since few highway accidents involving trucks take place at speeds greater than 68 mph, you don't have to be a highway safety expert to conclude a singular focus on truck speed could hardly produce a safety breakthrough," said OOIDA Executive Vice President Todd Spencer. He added, "Slower isn't safer. Every year, NHTSA accident data shows that cars are far more likely to run into the backs of trucks than the other way around. Real highway safety experts have always known that highways are safest when all vehicles travel at the same speed."

### For Federal Register Notice of speed limiters

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/07-326.htm>

## HOURS OF SERVICE UPDATE

The ruling from the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals should be coming any day on hours-of-service regulations. The Owner-Operators Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA) and Public Citizen had filed a lawsuit over the newest version of the hours-of-service regulations. The three areas of the regulations basically in question are the sleeper berth split, the 11 hours of driving and the 34-hour restart provision.

*-from MMTA News*



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# MPDA 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March** **17** **MPDA Officers & General Meeting** - Time & Location TBA
- 
- April** **28** **Grocery Grudge Set-up Day** – Shaw’s Truck Terminal, Scarborough – 8:00AM – Contact John Waisanen at 1-800-66SHAWS or <john.waisanen@shaws.com>
- 
- 29** **Great Grocery Grudge XI** - Shaw’s Truck Terminal, Scarborough – 8:00AM – Contact John Waisanen at 1-800-66SHAWS or <john.waisanen@shaws.com>
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- 29** **Pine State Trading Driving Competition** (Tentative) - Pine State Warehouse, Augusta - contact Charlie Gatz at Pine State Trading
- 
- May** **13** **Pennsylvania Convoy for Kids**
- 
- 18** **TDC Set-up Day** – Dysart’s Truck Terminal, Hermon – Noon - contact Cliff Gray at 623-4128 or grayc@mmta.com
- 
- 18** **MPDA Hospitality Get-together** (for everyone involved in competition) – Room 230, Bangor Motor Inn – Contact Everett MacMaster at 797-6330 or emac@maine.rr.com
- 
- 19** **Maine State Truck Driving Championships** – Dysart’s/Bangor Motor Inn – 5:30am - contact Cliff Gray at 623-4128 or grayc@mmta.com
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- June** **14 to 17** **Trek Across Maine / Lung Assn. Rally**, Sunday River – contact Denis Litalien at 468-7373 or dentruck@hotmail.com
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- August** **21 to 25** **ATA National Truck Driving Championships** – Minneapolis, Minn. - contact Cliff Gray at 623-4128 or grayc@mmta.com
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- September** **15** **2007 Charity FunDrive** Lehigh Travel Plaza, Lexington, VA (I-81, Exit 195) – contact Larry Davis at 336-924-1751 or info@maptda.org
- 
- 16** **Wishes on Wheels Convoy** – Willington, CT. – contact Roland Bolduc at 413-626-0900 or roadeo@charter.net
- 
- 22** **Charity Challenge Set-up Day** – Devens, Mass. – contact Denis Litalien at 468-7373 or dentruck@hotmail.com
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- 23** **9th Annual Northeast Professional Truck Drivers Charity Challenge** – Devens, Mass.- contact Fred Schenk at 508-453-3632 or charitychallenge@comcast.net
- 
- 29** **Trucking 4 Kids Convoy Set-up Day** – 8:00am – Location TBA – contact Kevin Battle at trucking4kids@aol.com or Terry Stuart at 318-7395
- 
- 30** **Maine Trucking 4 Kids Convoy**, 7:00am to 4:00pm – Scarborough Downs, Scarborough - contact Kevin Battle at trucking4kids@aol.com or Terry Stuart at 318-7395

## MPDA Newsletter Staff, Contributors, Preparation & Mailing;

Denis Litalien    Dave Stuart    Terry Stuart    Fred Schenk

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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.