



(Continued from page 1)

information about scores, contestants and other tidbits. All contestants are being sent a copy of this edition, whether they are an MPDA member or not. We encourage those of you who are not members to fill out the membership application on the back page of this edition and mail it in to join in our efforts to promote what is good about our industry and promote safe and professional driving among all drivers.

**2007 CHAMPIONSHIPS SCORING NOTES**

**Top Written Test Scores** (Award sponsored by MPDA.)

(Out of possible 80)

- Denis Litalien** - 64
- Hayri Berberoglu - 62
- Nathan Lewis** - 62
- Warren Lewis** - 62
- (5 drivers scored 60)

**Top Pre-Trip Scores** (Award Sponsored by United Insurance Group)

(Out of possible 100)

- Ricky Lamontagne - 90
- Edward Abbott - 85
- Robert Demchak - 85
- Randy DeVault** - 84
- Bradley Bartlett Jr. - 83
- Dennis Carver Sr. - 80

**Top Rookie of the Year Scores** (Award sponsored by Maine Commercial Tire, Inc.)

- Ben Thompson - 310
- Robert Pedersen - 305
- George George Jr. - 281
- James Hannigan - 257
- Ray Crockett - 254

**Grand Champion Scores** (Award sponsored by Hartt Transportation, Inc.)

- Hayri Berberoglu - 404.84
- Eric Foster** - 382.72
- Randy DeVault** - 357.48
- Jeff Murdock** - 335.88

- Ben Thompson - 318.6
- Edward Abbott - 318.6

**FUN CHAMPIONSHIP FACTS**

**Past State Champions Competing This Year**

- Denis Litalien** - (NH-'81, '82, ME-'84, '87, '88, '94, '95, '00, '01, '04)
- Randy DeVault** - ('92, '93, '95, '98, '99, '01, '04, '05, '06)
- Nathan Lewis** - (VT-'95, '96, NH-'00, '02, '03, '06)
- Warren Lewis** - ('75, '96, '97, '99, '03, '06)
- Richard Perry - ('82, '88, '06)
- Donald Mitsmenn** ('92, '94, '99)
- Tim Estabrook** ('93, '99, '02)
- Hayri Berberoglu - ('97, '03, '06)
- Jeff Murdock - ('90, '91)
- Robert Kierstead** - ('91, '05)
- Nelson Girard - ('03)
- Scott Crane - ('03)
- Rob Fernald** - ('04)
- Roger Scott - ('04)
- Jimmy Franklin - ('05)
- Greg Johnson** - ('05)
- Eric Foster** ('06)

- There were 17 past State Champions in this year's Maine competition. Seven out of the eight State Champions this year are repeat winners while Rob Balfour wins his first State Championship. Rob follows in his dad's footsteps as Bob won State Championships in 1987 and 1988. Out of this year's Champions, **Randy DeVault**, Jeff Murdock, **Eric Foster**, Scott Crane, **Rob Fernald**, Hayri Berberoglu and **Warren Lewis** are past Champions. **Randy DeVault** becomes the first Maine driver to win four years in a row (a recent ATA rule change allows winners to continue but in different classes).
- **Randy DeVault** has now tied **Denis Litalien** and **Charlie Nadeau** for the record among Maine drivers for winning the most State Championships, all having done it 10 times. (Charlie retired last year and no longer competes and Denis finished second in the 4-Axle class this year.) Following close behind are **Fern Richard** with 9 wins (retired) and


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- **Warren Lewis** with 7 wins.
- Maine has five past National Champions. Mark Corriveau of **Hannaford Trucking Co.** (2-time National Champion) has retired from competition, **Everett Macmaster**, who is ineligible to compete this year and **Randy DeVault** of Roadway Express, who is the State Champion in the Straight truck Class in this year's competition, are past Champions at the ATA National Truck Driving Championships. Also, **Warren Lewis** and **Rick Magnuson**, both of **Hannaford Trucking** and **Everett Macmaster** of FedEx Express are past National Champions at the U.S. Professional Truck Driving Championships.
- Next year's Maine State Truck Driving Championships will be held again in Bangor with the competition being held at **Dysart's** in Hermon and all the other activities again being held at the Bangor Motor Inn. Mark the date, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008, on your calendars.
- 2007 marked the 58th anniversary of the first Maine State Truck Driving Championships held in Maine. The first Championships were held at the old Portland Stadium (Fitzpatrick Stadium) in the grass on September 17, 1949 with only two classes competing: tractor semi-trailers and straight trucks. The Truck Roadeo, as it was then called, was put on by the Maine Truck Owners Association, the forerunner of today's Maine Motor Transport Association.
- **Clifford W. Perham, Inc./Shaw's Supermarkets** sponsored this year's 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Awards for the Championships.
- Over 100 people were involved in organizing, judging, competing and peripheral activities of this year's championships.
- There were 15 rookies this year. Rookies are drivers who have never competed in a State Championship. Ben Thompson of UPS Freight was named the Rookie of the Year at this year's competition. Maine Commercial Tire, Inc. sponsored this award.

- Thirteen companies had 3 or more drivers in the competition. UPS Freight, **Sysco of Northern New England** and FedEx Freight each entered 6 drivers while **Dysart's Transportation**, **Pottle's Transportation** and Con-Way Central Express each had 5 drivers. Along with those, **Hannaford Trucking**, FedEx Ground, Yellow Transportation and **Clifford W. Perham, Inc./Shaw's** each had four, making them all eligible for the Team Trophy. This award is sponsored by J.J. Keller & Associates.
- **Sysco of Northern New England** took the award this year after their drivers finished 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in their respective classes with an average score of 266. Those drivers included Hayri Berberoglu, Adrien Doyon, Bill Butland and John Dionne, respectively. JJ Keller & Associates sponsored the award.
- **Clifford W. Perham, Inc./Shaw's** took second place in the Team Award with an average score of 235.75 while FedEx Ground took third with an average of 234.5.
- MMTA used to invite the Vermont drivers to join Maine's drivers in this competition as Vermont does not hold its own competition. Since 2005 Vermont's drivers compete in New Hampshire to qualify for the Nationals.

### CHAMPIONS GET-TOGETHER

**Dave Littlefield** and **Cliff Gray** hosted a get-together for all the Champions on June 3rd at the MMTA office in Augusta. Drivers and spouses met and get to know each other and share some information about the national competition. Dave Littlefield and Denis Litalien will also host a practice session for the State Champions to sharpen up their competition skills. Maine drivers last year won the Team Award at the nationals that goes to the State with the highest average score and would like to repeat that feat. Anyone who wants to come and help with the practice should be at Emery-Waterhouse parking lot around 9:00am on Aug. 5.

For more information, contact Dave at

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MAINE TURNPIKE

THINKING AHEAD

For information and updates, call 1-877-682-9433, tune to Turnpike Radio at 1610AM, or visit [www.maineturnpike.com](http://www.maineturnpike.com).

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**GREAT PUBLICITY**

As part of the Championships Weekend in Bangor, the Bangor Daily News ran a supplement in their weekend edition titled "On The Move". This supplement contained a centerfold section on the championships with advertising throughout from supporters of the State Truck Driving Championships. There were also a number of articles in the supplement about the trucking industry. At the awards banquet, Dale Hanington, President of MMTA, thanked "The Bear", the radio station in Bangor that promoted the Championships throughout the area during the week of the event.

**NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The ATA National Truck Driving Championships will be held August 21st through the 25th in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Officials for the competition will begin laying out the course on Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> while contestants are expected to be at registration at 11:00am on Wednesday, August 22nd at the Convention Center. It is recommended that attendees arrive in Minneapolis no later than Tuesday, to have time to settle in and be ready for Wednesday to take into consideration any delays that may occur. Points are deducted for not being on time. Spouses of contestants will also register on Wednesday.

The course review, written test and equipment selection will be held on Wednesday for the drivers while the driving, interviews, and pre-trip inspections will be held Thursday and Friday. The Truck Driving Championship finals will be held Saturday morning with the awards banquet to follow on Saturday evening.

The U.S. Professional Truck Driver Championships were cancelled last year after 5 years of accepting drivers who worked for companies that were not members of American Trucking Associations.

Anyone interested in going to the Nationals should

contact **Cliff Gray** at MMTA for information or details of the events, rooms and transportation. There are discounts available. You can reach him at 623-4128 or *grayc@mmta.com*. At this time a number of people besides the State Champions have already made reservations.

All Maine attendees usually meet for dinner on Wednesday evening as a group when attending the nationals.

**GREAT GROCERY GRUDGE**

April 29 was the day of the Great Grocery Grudge, held at the Clifford W. Perham, Inc. truck terminal in Scarborough.. This was Grocery Grudge Number XI, the 11<sup>th</sup> time that **Shaw's** and **Hannaford** have joined forces in this friendly competition in the name of highway safety. While fierce competitors in the marketplace, the competitiveness does carry over each year to find out whom the best grocery haulers are.

A driving course was set up by **John Waisanen** and **Alan Paradis** consisting of an alley dock, a front and rear stop, a reverse serpentine, a back through/drive through straight line and a right turn. Nobody scored a perfect score on this course. **Dave Littlefield** handled the pre-trip inspection portion of the competition while **Ron Hutchins** and **Cliff Gray** organized the written test portion in the MMTA Mobile Training Unit.

Officials from **Hannaford Trucking** and **Clifford W. Perham, Inc., the trucking** division of Shaw's, were on hand to see the kids do their own bike rodeo and the wives of the drivers competed for the title of Ladies Challenge Champion. Amy Baker, representing Shaw's and Donna Cote, representing Hannaford, won for the gals. **Dick Brown** kept busy distributing raffle tickets to all the participants for some great door prizes while Pete Martin and his wife did the cooking for the day along with Dale Kelly. MPDA provided the course equipment for the event. This event is used to qualify drivers for the State Truck Driving Championships.

**Warren Lewis** was the top scorer for the Hannaford crew while **Denis Litalien** topped the

*(Continued on page 5)*

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Shaw's drivers. **Hannaford** was the winner of the Grocery Grudge as their drivers had a 4 point-per-driver higher average for the day. Hannaford gets to keep the trophy in their office until next year's event.

Results of the driving competition are as follows:

<b><u>Hannaford</u></b>	<b><u>Shaw's</u></b>
1 - <b>Warren Lewis</b>	1 - <b>Denis Litalien</b>
2 - <b>Greg Johnson</b>	2 - Phil Patry
3 - <b>Rob Fernald</b>	3- Wayne Berube
4 - <b>Charlie Nadeau</b>	4 - Jon Burr
5 - Vince Cote	5 - Jeff Murdock

*Pre-Trip inspection Award*

<b><u>Hannaford</u></b>	<b><u>Shaw's</u></b>
<b>Rob Fernald</b>	<b>Denis Litalien</b>

*Best Written Test*

<b><u>Hannaford</u></b>	<b><u>Shaw's</u></b>
<b>Warren Lewis</b>	Jon Burr

*Ladies Challenge*

<b><u>Hannaford</u></b>	<b><u>Shaw's</u></b>
Donna Cote	Amy Baker

**Shaw's** also held a driving competition at their Methuen, Mass facility for their drivers in Methuen and Northboro, Mass. MPDA Member Jim Haggerty came in third and won the pre-trip inspection award while member Mike Milyaro came in sixth. Mike Chapman of Northboro was the overall winner.

**TRUCKERS FIND REST STOPS IN SHORT SUPPLY, JOURNAL SAYS**

Truckers around the country are having difficulty finding rest stops at which to park, and parking spots close to cities are especially hard to find, the Wall Street Journal reported on May 1.

In a front-page story in its Marketplace section, the Journal said that many truckers have taken to parking their rigs on highway shoulders once they reach their 11-hour driving limit - and sometimes are then ticketed for doing so.

Police sometimes let truckers parked on the sides of roads off with warnings, citing safety as their primary concern, the story said.

Some truckers can find places to park at large retail parking lots, such as Wal-Marts, but those depend on local management and don't usually have things like showers and bathrooms available, the Journal reported.

One truck-stop company, Pilot Travel Centers, said the number of truck stops is growing by 2% to 3% per year, but that it is hard to find places to expand, the paper said.

*-from Transport Topics Online*

**DHS SETS \$11.6 MILLION FOR HIGHWAY WATCH PROGRAM**

The Department of Homeland Security said Thursday it has issued an \$11.6 million grant to the Highway Watch program it sponsors jointly with American Trucking Associations.

DHS said the Highway Watch grant will be used to recruit and train "truckers and other highway professionals to identify and report security and safety situations on our nation's roads."

It was part of a larger package of funding DHS' Infrastructure Protection Program, which will get \$445 million in security grants for the 2007 fiscal year.

"These grants will help to protect our nation's critical infrastructure from threats and hazards that could cause major loss of life, economic impact, and disruption of services," said DHS Deputy Secretary Michael Jackson.

*-from Transport Topics Online*

**REPORT SHOWS DOWNTURN IN '06 LARGE-TRUCK CRASH FATALITIES**

Preliminary data released by the Department of Transportation show that fatalities from large truck crashes declined 3.7% last year compared with 2005.

DOT issued the preliminary report Friday, which showed fatalities from large-truck crashes fell to 5,018 last year, from 5,212 in 2005.

Overall traffic fatalities fell to 43,300 last year from 43,433 in 2005, DOT said.

The report also showed a decline in the fatality rate to 1.44 deaths per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, from 1.45 in 2005. DOT said the projections based on partial data and are likely to change when finalized.

*-from Transport Topics Online*

**LEGISLATIVE**

If you don't know who your State Representative is or if you need contact information, you can visit [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov). There is a place you can enter your zip code to locate your Member and contact information. Another way to find your legislator and his/her contact information, please visit: <http://janus.state.me.us/house/townlist.htm>

# MAINE MOTOR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION



## CONGRATULATES THE WINNERS AND ALL THE CONTESTANTS IN THE 2007 MAINE STATE TRUCK DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS



**~ STRAIGHT TRUCK ~**  
Randy DeVault of Roadway Express

**~ 3 - AXLE ~**  
Rob Fernald of Shaw Industries



**~ 4 - AXLE ~**  
Eric Foster of Land Air Express of New England

**~ 5 - AXLE VAN ~**  
Jeff Murdock of Clifford W. Perham, Inc./Shaw's



**~ 5 - AXLE SLEEPER ~**  
Warren Lewis of Hannaford Trucking Co.

**~ 5 - AXLE TANK ~**  
Scott Carter of J & S Oil



**~ 5 - AXLE FLATBED ~**  
Robert Balfour II of Balfour Motor Express

**~ TWIN TRAILERS ~**  
Hayri Berberoglu of Sysco of Northern new England



**Best Pre Trip Inspection**  
Ricky Lamontagne of Land Air Express of New England

**Company Team Champion**  
Sysco of Northern New England



**GRAND CHAMPION**  
Hayri Berberoglu of Sysco of Northern new England

**ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**  
Ben Thompson of UPS Freight



**TOP WRITTEN TEST**  
Denis Litalien of Clifford W. Perham, Inc./Shaw's



## MPDA's 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### August

- 5** **Maine State Champions Practice Session** – Emery-Waterhouse Lot, Portland – 8:00am – contact Dave Littlefield at <scooby@maine.rr.com> or 883-3061
- 15** **Convoy Committee Meeting** – Old Country Buffet Rest., Maine Mall - 6:00pm - contact Kevin Battle at trucking4kids@aol.com or Terry Stuart at 727-3704 or <tstuart@mainepda.org>
- 21 to 25** **ATA National Truck Driving Championships** – Minneapolis, Minn. - contact Cliff Gray at 623-4128 or grayc@mmta.com
- 29** **Convoy Committee Meeting** – Old Country Buffet Rest., Maine Mall - 6:00pm - contact Kevin Battle at trucking4kids@aol.com or Terry Stuart at 318 -7395 or tstuart@mainepda.org

### September

- 5** **Convoy Committee Meeting** – Old Country Buffet Rest., Maine Mall - 6:00pm - contact Kevin Battle at trucking4kids@aol.com or Terry Stuart at 318 - 7395 or tstuart@mainepda.org
- 12** **Convoy Committee Meeting** – Old Country Buffet Rest., Maine Mall - 6:00pm - contact Kevin Battle at trucking4kids@aol.com or Terry Stuart at 318 - 7395 or tstuart@mainepda.org
- 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>
- 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 727-3704 or <tstuart@mainepda.org>
- 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 727-3704 or <tstuart@mainepda.org>

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

Denis Litalien      Dave Stuart      Terry Stuart

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**www.mpda.org**

MPDA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting courtesy, safety and professionalism in the field of commercial driving.

# Maine Professional Drivers Association

Application for Membership

Please mail this application to:

Maine Professional Drivers Association  
Attn: Membership Officer  
P.O. Box 5672  
Augusta, Maine 04332-5672

(PLEASE PRINT)

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Person who gave you this application, or the location where you picked it up:

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Are your annual Dues included? Yes [] No []

\$25 Individual [] - \$65 Supporting [] (please make checks out to MPDA)

I acknowledge that, to the best of my knowledge, all the information contained in this application is true.

Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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## For Association use only - (TS)

Application Rec'd \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Member Officer Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Rec'd \_\_\_\_\_

Board Approval \_\_\_\_\_

By-laws Sent \_\_\_\_\_

Membership # \_\_\_\_\_