



## 2007 Maine Trucking 4 Kids Convoy

2007 marks the 9<sup>th</sup> year that the “**Maine Trucking 4 Kids Convoy**” was held as a joint endeavor between the Maine Professional Drivers Assn. and the South Portland Lions Clubs. Since 1999 the efforts of the truck drivers and the Lions members have resulted in over **\$89,000** being raised for organizations that help kids in various ways.

Camp Sunshine was the main beneficiary of the event, getting a check for \$14,000 to help families stay at the camp which includes all medical personnel necessary for the child and facilities for the parents. Event Treasurer **Denis Litalien** reports that this event has raised over \$40,000 for Camp Sunshine over the past 10 years. Portland area youth programs received the balance of the funds this year.

At the Presentation Dinner, held at the Landry’s Village in South Portland on October 18, checks totaling **\$18,500.00** were presented to representatives from Camp Sunshine and youth programs of the South Portland, Scarborough and the Maine State Police Departments.

In 2007 the event was held on September 30th and drew 75 trucks that convoyed though South Portland and Scarborough. The convoy portion started at Scarborough Downs and ended there. Patrick Eisenhart entertained the crowd with music once the trucks arrived. The Little Melodies Interactive Children’s Band entertained the kids with lively music that had the kids dancing along with the band members. **Dave and Terry Stuart** provided coffee and donuts for the early arrivals and had lunch prepared for all the participants.

**Diane Thompson** and **Dick Brown**, among others, were also seen working the grills. **Fred Thompson** and a number of Lions members organized the parking of vehicles to allow judging to be held by class of vehicle.

Event co-chair, **Kevin Battle**, says that enough sponsors were recruited to cover all the expenses of the event so that all pledges that drivers brought in went 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 as well as from a number of raffles, an auction and the donations left at the food booth.

Driving Competition Winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Scott Carter of **J&S Oil**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - **Ed Fernald** of Shaw Industries
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - **Eric Berry** of **Sysco of Northern New England**
- 4<sup>th</sup> - **Randy DeVault** of Maine Motor Transport Assn.

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 **Butch Cheverie** of **Portland Air Freight**. Butch raised \$2,205.00 and was presented with an XM satellite radio and year subscription sponsored by The Wash Bay in Kennebunk for his efforts. Jeff Jewell of **Sysco of Northern New England** was

also recognized for raising \$1,105.00 and was presented with a CB radio sponsored by Portland Air Freight while John Biron of S & J Trucking raised \$1,025.00.

Each year the Convoy Committee also recognizes two committee members and two companies who have gone over and above to help the event. This year Patrick Eisenhart and Dennis & Vickie Hamel were recognized while **Clifford W. Perham/Shaw's Supermarkets** and **Hannaford Trucking** were presented with recognition plaques for all their support of the event over the years.

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

	<u>Driver</u>	<u>Company</u>
Bobtail - 2nd Place	<u>Tom Stone</u>	<u>T. R. Stone</u>
Bobtail - 1st Place	<u>Carl Poisson</u>	<u>Poisson Trucking</u>
Straight Truck - 2ndPlace	<u>Dennis Hamel</u>	<u>Michaud Distributors</u>
Straight Truck -1st Place	<u>John Biron</u>	<u>S &amp; J Trucking</u>
Tanker - 2ndPlace	<u>Matt Chadbourne</u>	<u>A-1 Septic</u>
Tanker -1st Place	<u>Gary Whittier</u>	<u>Branch Brook</u>
Heavy Equipment - 2ndPlace	<u>Dana Pierce</u>	<u>Branch Brook</u>
Heavy Equipment -1st Place	<u>John Chretien</u>	<u>Bob's Garage</u>
Antique - 2ndPlace	<u>Wayne Devoe</u>	<u>'46 Mack Truck</u>
Antique -1st Place	<u>Fred &amp; Judy Peckham</u>	<u>'79 Peterbilt</u>
Pick-up Truck - 2ndPlace	<u>Randy Conley</u>	<u>Michaud Distributors</u>
Pick-up Truck -1st Place	<b><u>Richard Horton</u></b>	<u>Retired Driver</u>
Flatbed Class – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	<u>Paul Robie</u>	<u>Maietta Construction</u>
Flatbed Class – 1st Place	<u>John Roussel</u>	<u>B &amp; B Towing</u>
Wrecker Class – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	<u>Bubba Stewart</u>	<u>Stewart's Towing</u>
Wrecker Class – 1st Place	<u>Ron Bozzuto</u>	<u>Maietta Towing</u>
Small Fleet Van – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	<u>James Chaisson</u>	<b><u>Emery-Waterhouse</u></b>
Small Fleet Van – 1st Place	<b><u>Clarence Thompson</u></b>	<u>Thompson &amp; Thompson</u>
Large Fleet Van – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	<u>John-Elwyn Hamel</u>	<u>Oakhurst</u>
Large Fleet Van – 1st Place	<b><u>Nate Lewis</u></b>	<b><u>Wal-Mart</u></b>
Most Unusual - 2ndPlace	<u>Tony Bisson</u>	<u>Bill's Auto Transport</u>
Most Unusual -1st Place	<u>Bob Raymond</u>	<u>Showtime</u>
Kids Choice Award	<u>John-Elwyn Hamel</u>	<u>Oakhurst</u>
Most Patriotic	<u>John-Elwyn Hamel</u>	<u>Oakhurst</u>
Vehicle that traveled furthest to attend:	<u>T.R. Stone</u>	(3 trucks) Distance <u>200 miles.</u>
Company with most vehicles in Convoy:	<u>Branch Brook</u>	#Vehicles: <u>7</u>

The committee thanks all past members and those who continue to put their wholehearted efforts in making this a fun, interesting and charitable day. Check this website for information about the 2008 event. It will be held on September 28, 2008 at will again start at Scarborough Downs.

If you would like to be involved in organizing this event and help on the Committee, contact event co-chairs Kevin Battle at trucking4kids@aol.com or Terry Stuart at 221-3198 or tstuart@mainepda.org. The Committee meets monthly throughout the year at the Old Country buffet Restaurant at the Maine Mall in South Portland. It's not too early to start your fundraising efforts and pick up the Top Fundraiser Award!