



# TRANSCO EXPRESS

October Issue

2002

*Transco Lines, Inc. 1-800-446-5568*



### Special Interest Articles:

- Seeing Ahead
- Looking Behind
- Congratulations

## A Chance to Say Thank You to Our Drivers

Our company has positioned itself as a high quality, service oriented carrier in a highly competitive industry. We have experienced smooth and steady growth during most of 2001, and all of 2002. We have also consistently increased our performance in the following: equipment and asset utilization, revenue growth, on time service, fleet fuel economy, reduction in empty miles, preventable accidents, moving citations, log violations and driver turnover. We have accomplished a lot in the last couple of years, and done this in a brutal business environment for our industry.

I know that our teamwork is the prime reason for our success. Team means everyone, including administrative support people and the mechanics in the shop. I also know that our frontline – our drivers – is the foundation that our teamwork is based on. We don't say it often enough, but we realize that without good drivers we cannot succeed. The value of a good driver is overwhelming when you really think about it. The "attitude and culture" that our customers see is the one that our drivers present at their docks and offices.

Drivers with good attitudes and that understand the value of customers are worth their weight in gold. This is a good time to say "Thank You" for the excellent job you do and to let you know you are making our company better everyday. Keep it up. I am proud of all of you.

*Michael Barr  
General Manager*



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## Robert's Corner

I hope everyone has had a great October. I want to thank everyone for using Flying J for their fuel, there have been only a few out of network. It is the best I've seen since I've been here thanks to everyone. We have a lot of new equipment in the fleet, and we want to thank everyone for keeping it that way.

We had a lot of fuel bonuses paid out this last

quarter, however we still have a lot of work to do. If you need help, please come by personnel and we will give you some tools to help you improve your fuel mileage.

We are about done with the remodeling of the drivers' lounge for those of you that haven't seen the work going on. It now has a full bath, kitchen, and 2 bunkrooms. We even have the television going again. I

hope everyone enjoys the new improvements made. Everyone keep up the hard work, and remember service is the most important part of our business, every load we haul should be on time no matter who the customer is. It takes every one of us working together as a team to win, and I know I am on a team of winners!

*Robert Smith*



**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Fuel Bonus 2002**

1. 4290 Gerald Lemoine	6.3 387 Pete	16. 4388 Larry Schilling	6.6 T-2 KW
2. 4301 Sherman Mosley	6.5 387 Pete	17. 4389 Kenneth White	6.3 T-2 KW
3. 4307 Tiffany Mojeskie	6.2 387 Pete	18. 4391 Casto Team	7.4 T-2 KW
4. 4335 Larry Junior	6.4 387 Pete	19. 4397 Larry Rogers	6.7 T-2 KW
5. 4339 Dickie Maas	6.6 387 Pete	20. 4284 Jose Marcus	5.8 T-2 KW
6. 4341 Robert Busby	6.7 387 Pete	21. 4287 Benny Morast	6.6 T-2 KW
7. 4351 James Smarr	7.3 387 Pete	22. 4360 Robert Brittian	5.9 T-2 KW
8. 4354 Robert Warren	6.3 387 Pete	23. 4318 Gary Henderson	6.4 387 Pete
9. 4331 George Hayden	6.4 T-2 KW	24. 4402 Scarberry/Watters	6.4 387 Pete
10. 4332 Daniel Bell	6.5 T-2 KW	25. 4410 Eldon Gott	6.4 387 Pete
11. 4362 Duke Team	6.2 T-2 KW	26. 4412 Wallace Team	6.4 387 Pete
12. 4367 Kooken/Reihe Team	6.2 T-2 KW	27. 4413 Baggett Team	6.6 387 Pete
13. 4369 Massie Team	6.5 T-2 KW	28. 4414 Whitesides/Coggins	6.3 387 Pete
14. 4373 Speakes Team	6.2 T-2 KW	29. 4416 Gene Woody	6.5 387 Pete
15. 4375 David Merrill	6.4 T-2 KW	30. 4426 Justin Derrick	6.6 387 Pete

**Top Ten Fuel Mileage (Sept.)**

1. 4294 Karl Kretzer	7.5 387 Pete
2. 4345 Dayne Hogan	7.5 387 Pete
3. 4391 Casto Team	7.4 T-2 KW
4. 4351 James Smarr	7.2 387 Pete
5. 4324 Melvin Young	6.9 T-2 KW
6. 4343 Steve Rogers	6.9 387 Pete
7. 4410 Eldon Gott	6.8 387 Pete
8. 4388 Larry Schilling	6.7 T-2 KW
9. 4290 Gerald Lemoine	6.7 387 Pete
10. 4352 Haywood Stricklen	6.7 387 Pete

**TLI Spotlight**

Let me introduce you to Jack Knapp, one of the CSR's here at TLI. He has been with our company for 8 months now, and doing a great job.

Jack lives in Morrilton with his wife,

Melinda, and their three beautiful daughters, Bailey (10), Alyssa (8), and Madison (3).

Jack loves to golf, and he and Melinda coach softball and basketball for their girls.



## Preacher's Column

As October 1<sup>st</sup> came and went, we passed the 18-year mark from our humble beginnings in a 6' x 8' room as a brokerage, to the full fledged, service oriented truck line that we are today. I guess 18 years would seem like an eternity in the beginning, but it seems like it has passed all too quickly.

I have spent most of today dealing with both computer and electronic data transmission issues. Customers now track most loads on their own computer systems, by tying in with ours, rather than calling us and asking us to trace or update them on your progress. I remember the days when we only had 2 phone lines

and tracked everything on paper. In order to track one of you down between daily check calls, whether emergency or something else, we had to page truck stops, call scalehouses, or the highway patrol in the area of our best guess where you might be.

It would seem that every time we thought we had things leveled out and knew what we were doing, we would be interrupted by some change in customer business strategy or technology that would delay our journey somewhat, but we managed to stay on course.

Jesus performed some of his most notable

miracles when he was interrupted on a journey to someplace specific. He was interrupted on his way to heal Jarius's daughter when he healed the woman that had the issue of blood. He was sleeping on a boat trip when his disciples interrupted his sleep to have him get up and calm the sea. He was headed across the sea another time to minister to people in a city and was interrupted by a demon-possessed man on the shore and cast out all the demons, healing the man. As he was on his way to Jerusalem (for his crucifixion), he was interrupted at Jericho by a blind man named Bartimaeus, whom he healed.

In all of these cases, Jesus stopped, took time from his journey, and healed out of compassion for his fellow man. Too many times we pass by those in need because we have someplace to go and feel we don't have time to stop and help, or maybe we judge too quickly and pass by rather than stopping and showing compassion. We don't know how our brother's shoes feel until we walk in them awhile.

Let's look out for one another and be careful out there. God Bless You All.

*E. Wayne Bookout*

*Sr. Vice President*

## Employment Anniversaries

### November

Gene Woody	11/28	7yrs	Rance Casaway
			Edward Haywood
			Rhonda Haywood
Mike Lindsey	11/25	6yrs	Dayne Hogan
			Ray Martin
Michael Gillespie	11/21	2yrs	Ricky Morgan
			Donovan Smith
Ronnie Finkbeiner	11/01	1yr	James Dedmon
			Dorothy Delaughter
Donald Jarmon	11/13	1yr	James Brown
			Wilburn Driggers, Jr.
			Joseph Long
			Jeffrey Bent

## New Hires

### Sept. 15 to Oct. 15

John Cummings	09/25
Brian Brown	10/01
Johnny Brown	10/01
Glen Morgan	10/01
Bobby Tidwell	10/01
John Griffith	10/08
Tammy Bearden	10/10
C. Wayne Chandler	10/10
Curtis Kretzer	10/10
Amos Williams	10/10
Carol Black	10/15
Del Schalz	10/15
Billy Thornton	10/15



## Seeing Ahead

To be safe as a driver, you need to know what is going on all around your truck. Many drivers look ahead, but not far enough ahead.

Stopping and changing lanes can take a lot of distance. Knowing what the traffic is doing on all sides is very important. You also must look far ahead to make sure you have plenty of room.

Most good drivers look 12 to 15 seconds ahead. (It means look at the distance you will travel in 12 to 15 seconds.) At lower speeds that is about 1 block, at highway speeds it's about ¼ mile. If your not looking that far ahead, you may have to stop too quickly or make sudden lane changes. This does not mean to neglect things that are close. Good drivers shift their attention back and forth.

Look for traffic coming onto the highways, into your lane or turning. Watch for brake lights, or flashing lights to indicate slow moving vehicles or perhaps a stop in traffic ahead due to rush hour traffic jams or perhaps an accident. You can give yourself time to slow, stop or change lanes if you

look ahead.

Also, another great tool for keeping up on what's ahead is the CB Radio. Keep it tuned to the channel most truck drivers use. It doesn't have to be loud and if traffic is coming to a stop you'll usually know well before you get there.

The CB is also helpful in finding another route if needed. This way you won't add to the problem of traffic jams and be in the way for any emergency vehicles trying to make it to the scene.

Remember that no one is responsible for your vehicle but you – slow down, keep your eyes focused, and be safe!

*Henny Newton*

## Looking Behind

Because you cannot see everything behind your vehicle, backing always poses a potential hazard. Try to avoid backing whenever you can. When you have to back, look at your line of travel before you begin. It never hurts to get out and look (G.O.A.L.). Check your clearance to the sides and overhead in and near the path your vehicle will take. I personally like to use my flashers whenever in reverse gear.

Always back as slowly as possible using the lowest reverse gear. That way you can more easily correct any steering errors and can stop quickly if you need to.

Always try to back as slowly as possible using the lowest reverse gear. That way you can more easily correct any steering errors and can stop quickly if you need to.

Always try to back to the drivers side if you can so you can see better. Backing towards the right side is very dangerous because you can't see as well. When you back and turn towards the driver side, you can watch the rear of the vehicle by looking out the side window and using your

mirrors. Try to use driver side backing even if you have to go around the block or row of trucks to put your vehicle in this position. The added safety is well worth it.

It also never hurts to use a helper when you can because there are always blind spots you cannot see. Try not to let pride get in the way because it only takes a split second to back into something unexpected. When using a helper to back, he or she should stand near the back of the trailer where you can see the helper. Before you begin, work out a set of hand signals that you both understand and, most importantly, agree on a signal for "stop".

Always remember G.O.A.L., Get Out And Look. It only takes a minute and there is no shame in getting out to look as many times as needed.

*David Newton*



## Safety Bonus

I would like to say thank you for a job well done to those who achieved the safety bonus. You are all model employees and have done an outstanding job. Please keep up the good work and we will see you on the list again next year. Drive safe – Keep the sunny side up.

*Chuck Pipes*

Recipients of the Safety Bonus are:

Leroy Wheeler

Randy Hubel

Will Carter

Jose Marcus

Deward Mallett

Howard Judd

Eileen Coates

Virgil Battenfield, Jr.

Floyd Leach

Jerome Soares

Don Williams

Don Bridges

Leslie Clark

Robert Doggett

Otis Fox

David Newton

Henny Newton

Brooks Evants

Ray Robinett

Paul Bruns

Susanna Cruz-Middleton

## Driver of the Month - September

Every Fleet Manager has the difficult task of choosing a top driver each month. We would like to thank all the drivers for doing a top-notch job for us. If you did not make Driver of the Month this list, rest assured that you have a good chance for the next list. Keep up the good work, everyone.

**Rick & Shari Linder**

For Randy Looper

**Tony Herrera**

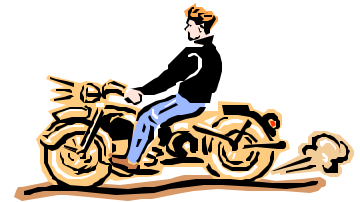
For Tim Rider

**Lawrence Weaver**

For Tom Hanks

**Donnie Jones**

For Pat Heaton



## Just A Thought

Winter is on its way, or here in some cases, and the holiday season is upon us.

Take a little more caution and stay alert as these mean more traffic with varied road conditions. Take care and keep ahead of the game.

I've been at this job for 6 months now, and all in all you've done a pretty fair job. We can still use improvement though. There are still way too many moving violations and out of services for non-current logs. Do your paperwork please. We need your help in these areas especially: log your fuel stops and don't forget to flag your money. You are on duty whenever you

use that card.

Please have a great holiday season and be safe out there. Thank You for all you do.

*Will Carter*

## Briefings from the Recruit Room

Boy has my phone been ringing! Thanks to everyone for doing such a good job out there on the road recruiting. I know not everyone that calls in will qualify or we may not be their cup of tea, but I just want you to know that I appreciate all the hard work. Just remember when you are out there recruiting, look for drivers that are friendly and hard working, someone that you would want to be a part of our team. We want all of you to be proud to work for TLI and the only way to do that is to have good dedicated employees that enjoy what they do. (In the office and in our trucks.)

We want to give an extra "Thanks" to Ronnie Brady, Otis Fox, and Ed & Rhonda Haywood, who have

had quite a few recruits call in saying these people referred them. Keep up the good work and thanks again to everyone!

*Martie McLeland*

## November Birthdays

Daniel Bell	11/04	Kenneth Andrews	11/16	Richard Hawthorn	11/21
Bobby Tidwell	11/05	Mark Clark	11/16	James Brown	11/24
Terry Williams	11/07	Ronald Mullenax	11/16	Robert Poehls	11/24
Atsuko Harrell	11/08	Chuck Pipes	11/16	Rodney Thompson	11/25
Tommy Hickey	11/08	Clinton Tallent	11/16	Wade Graham	11/26
Wilburn Driggers, Jr.	11/09	Kenny Skaggs	11/18	Joseph Long	11/27
Anthony Zambino	11/10	Les Weaver	11/18	Wayne Bookout	11/28
Mitch Ambrose	11/12	Evelyn Casto	11/19	Ted Smith	11/28
Ernest Tanori, Jr.	11/14	Wayne Chandler	11/19	Michael Massie	11/29
Johnny Brown	11/15	Michael Donovan	11/21		
Frank Michaud	11/15	Brooks Evants	11/21		





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# Congratulations!!!

Joe Prochazka, from Brooklyn, NY, married Pamela Lynne Snow, of Clarksville, AR. The wedding took place in Key West, FL on September 13 of this year. They now live in Dover, AR. Joe has driven for our company since July 23. We want to say congratulations and we hope you have many good years ahead of you!!!

*Personnel Dept.*



**IT'S A BOY!!!**  
Everyone please congratulate Robert Ahrens on the new addition to his family. This beautiful baby boy by the name of Decota Alex Ahrens was born on September 20. He was 18 ½ inches long and 6 pounds, 5 ounces.

*Personnel Dept.*

## *About Our Organization...*

Transco is a family-owned and operated company, founded in 1984 by James and Zella Harrell and Wayne Bookout. You can find us located on I-40 between Ft. Smith and Little Rock. We pull 53 ft. dry van trailers thru all 48 states and pride ourselves in being able to offer our drivers the luxury of driving late model trucks with owner/operator specs. Our drivers are paid weekly by company check or direct deposit. We are self-insured and are able to offer to company drivers only, dental/medical/vision and prescription card benefits free to the employee, additional family coverage being paid by the employee, after 90 days.

PERSONNEL	1-800-446-5568	RANDY	1-800-270-9369
COMPANY PAYROLL	1-888-867-9544	TOM	1-800-261-3866
MAINTENANCE	1-877-968-2365	PAT	1-800-446-5559
FRONT DESK	1-800-276-5427	TIM	1-888-858-3967

