



Memphis Traffic Talk

Formerly Rail 'n' Road

Publication of Traffic Club of Memphis Organized 1913

Volume 52 Number 2

February 2003

February Speaker Meeting

- Date: Tuesday February 11, 2003
Reservation by noon February 10, 2003
- Place: FedEx Express World Headquarters
Hacks Cross and Winchester
Memphis, TN 38125
- Time: Security Chec-in begins at 5:45
Networking 6:00 PM
Dinner 6:30 PM
- Menu: Garden Fresh Salad Greens w/a Raspberry Vinaigrette
Dressing, Tender Sliced Beef Tenderloins w/bordelaise sauce &
Grilled Jumbo Prawns , w/lobster Beurreblanc, Oven Roasted
Potatoes, Sauteed Green Beans w/trio of peppers, Key Lime Pie,
Rolls & Butter, Tea & Water
- Tariff: \$25.00 for Members and Guests
\$20.00 for Students and Educators
\$30.00 for non-members
Special for this meeting only. \$10 off dinner for new
members. (Sorry no renewals)

Bill Logue, Senior Vice President of Air-Ground Operations, will speak about the current events happening at FedEx. This has become an annual highlight of the Traffic Club and you don't want to miss this meeting. You must absolutely, positively make your reservations before noon Monday, February 10. Security will not allow you through the gate unless you have been pre-cleared. Use your Club's Information and Reservation Number, 901-794-6004 or the Club's web site trafficclubofmemphis.com to make your reservation.

This Month's Quote: It takes twenty years to become an overnight success.- Eddie Cantor

President's Message



Thanks to all who attended our luncheon in January and heard Bob Anno of Autozone give a great presentation of how he and they deal with the day to day delivery of their products both from the DC's and store to store. Thanks again Bob! We had a big crowd due to some walk-ups that were not able to make reservations prior to the meeting. Let me say it is great to have you attend, and

we encourage you to continue to support our club, but it can really create problems in our planning when we have more than a couple of walk-ins show up. We were extremely close to running out of space at the Racquet Club and did not want anyone to miss out on the delicious meal they provided and Bob's great presentation. Just let me again ask that you please make your reservation ahead of time so we can plan accordingly in order to have a seat available for you. Along that same subject, our next meeting is our annual FedEx Corporate Headquarter meeting with **Mr. Bill Logue** presenting our program. This year again, due to the strict security in place at this worldwide facility, you must make your **reservation no later than 12NOON Monday February 10** in order for the security gate to have you on our list, and thus allow you on the property to attend the meeting. **Walk-ups are not allowed at this meeting.** Please also allow a little extra time to clear the **Winchester Road entrance** gate as there normally is a short line being checked in off of the reservation list. We look forward to seeing each of you there, as this is normally one of our largest attended meetings each year! Also, please begin to consider being a hole sponsor or donating door prizes for our annual Spring Golf Scramble. Board members will begin soliciting donations soon and we hope you will be able to participate. Just as the Christmas party was a great success, we would like to have at least one door prize for each golfer at the dinner after playing. Please donate generously when asked. There is rumor that all **Harley Davidson** fans will want to be sharpening their **hole-in-one** skills for this springs scramble. More details to come in the March Memphis Traffic Talk! Thanks for your time and participation and look forward to seeing you on the 11th!!

New Members

Welcome to the following new members:

Thomas L. Taylor
General Operations Manager
Yellow Transportation
3914 East Shelby Drive
Memphis, TN 38118
(901) 362-4454

James Davis Whitehead
Transportation Consultant
Shoemaker
2176 West Street, Suite 110
Germantown, TN 38138
(901) 757-5757

Samuel M. Large
Intermodal Management
Exel transportation Services
965 Ridge Lake Blvd., Suite 100
Memphis, TN 38120
(901) 818-8357

Coming Events

February 11	Bill Logue-FedEx
March 11	Speaker Meeting
April 8	Richard McDuffie-William Sonoma
May 13	Spring Golf Outing
June 10	Speaker Meeting
September 9	Fall Golf Outing
October 14	Speaker Meeting
November 11	Election Night/Speaker Meeting
December 5	Christmas Party

TCI Person of the Year

The Traffic Club of Memphis has been honored the past two years to have nominated the annual winners of the TCI Person of the Year, Jim van Eynde and Neil Southern. This year we are going for a three-peat. We welcome nominations from the membership. Additional information on the award can be found at the Club's website or by contacting Sherrye Britt 901-948-8556.

Court Blocks Mexican Trucks

A federal appeals court recently ruled that the Department of Transportation must prepare a full environmental impact statement and Clean Air Act conformity determination before it can open the U.S. border to Mexican motor carriers under the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th circuit came after environmental, labor, and trucking industry groups challenged a November order by President Bush opening the border. In its opinion, the three judge panel found that DOT "arbitrarily and capriciously" and "without regard to well-established United States environmental laws," by not preparing a full environmental impact analysis on air quality impact as required by federal law. "Although we agree with the importance of the United States' compliance with its treaty obligations with its southern neighbor, Mexico, such compliance cannot come at the cost of violating United States law," the court said in siding with the petitioners. This decision leaves DOT with three options: 1) initiate the environmental impact analysis, which, even if expedited, could take several years; 2) file a petition for reconsideration with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals; or, 3) take the case to the U.S. Supreme Court. League counsel, Nick DiMichael expects DOT to file the petition for reconsideration before trying to move the case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Torpedoes

One of the oldest safety devices used by railroads is the track torpedo, a small dynamite charge that's wrapped in paper (usually red), with lead straps to hold it firmly in place on a rail. When a locomotive's wheel comes in contact with the torpedo, the weight of the engine sets off the charge creating a loud bang that could only be ignored if a nuclear bomb were going off next to it.

Track torpedoes were standard issue in the lockers or tool boxes of most cabooses before the cabooses started to disappear. If a train had to stop on unsignaled or "dark" trackage, a rear-end crewman would strap the torpedoes to the track far enough back from the train so another train could stop after it exploded the torpedo. The appropriate distance could be a half-mile to several miles according to the rules stated in the employee timetables or rulebooks. You can imagine that crewmen were awfully sure-footed walking on ballasted right of way when they had to carry a small dynamite charge several miles.

Today, railroads don't use track torpedoes as much as they did in the past, if at all. The two-way radio has made the track torpedo almost obsolete. Also, safety concerns over carrying dynamite on a train and injury to pedestrians has prompted many railroads to figuratively send the torpedoes to scrap with the cabooses.



Traffic Club Job Corner

Beginning this issue we are starting something new for members of The Traffic Club of Memphis. We will now be posting available jobs for the traffic related industry. In this ever-changing environment we choose to work in we want to extend a helping hand for those of us who might be looking for a change. Anyone can post jobs as long as they pertain to the market. Please use The Traffic Club website and the Member Relations email to send your job postings. We hope this will be a service that you, our members, will enjoy and benefit from.

Leslie James
Members Relations

Position: Freight Manager
Contact: Barry Matthews 360-8091 Ext. 10

A company located in Memphis for 2 years is looking for a Freight Manager. This individual should be willing to grow with the company. Job duties will include gathering quotes and then choosing carrier for approximately 30 loads a day. Will also be responsible for grading carriers for on time service and building relationships with the carriers. Could possibly grow into brokering for the company. Pay based on experience ranging from high \$30's to \$40's.

Position: Heavy Truck Maintenance/Diesel Instructor
Contact: Dennis Sweeny 870-733-6770

Full Time Funded Position at Mid-South Community College for an instructor with 7000-8000 hours of experience as a heavy truck maintenance technician. ASE Certification in diesel engines, suspension, and steering, brakes, electronic systems and preventative maintenance inspection. Must be willing to achieve Master Certification within one year from hire date. Prior teaching experience is necessary. Working knowledge of business computer applications, good interpersonal skills, and strong communication skills are a must. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Competitive benefits package.

THE TRAFFIC CLUB OF MEMPHIS

Memphis Traffic Talk

*Official Publication of the Traffic Club of Memphis
Member Transportation Clubs International*

Officers and Board

President	Ken Opperman kopperman@eaglegrp.com	Eagle Systems, Inc	367-2490
Vice President	Jerry Duncan Jerry.Duncan@af.com	FedEx Freight-East	346-4400
Sec. Treasurer	Wendell Miller Wendell.miller@yellowcorp.com	Yellow Transportation	362-4425
Editor	Ted Barham tbarham@aimslogistics.com	AIMS Logistics	854-2447

Board of Directors:

Membership	Marty Morelli Marty.morelli@yellowcorp.com	Yellow Freight	362-4424
Speaker/Audit	Jim Jacobs Jim@gmcp.com	Green Mountain Consulting	844-9883 x-224
Member Relations	Leslie James Leslie.James@af.com	FedEx Freight-East	346-4400
Scholarship/TCI	Sherrye Britt sbritt@riviana.com	Riviana Foods, Inc.	948-8556
Golf Outings	Rick Marino Rick.marino@kuehne-nagel.com	Kuehne & Nagel, Inc.	365-7039
Media Relations	Dan Pallme Daniel.pallme@gecapital.com	TIP Intermodal	309-5230
Advisor	Dale Kehr Dkehr@protransplus.com	Pro Trans	363-3800

Mission Statement: The fostering of professionalism of its members by providing a networking system and a forum for presentation of transportation, distribution, and logistic topics.