

# LEARNING

# Curve

Volume 8, No. 2  
Summer 2007

NETWORKING THE FINEST EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES IN THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY

## Featured School

## Hagerstown Community College

The Commercial Vehicle Transportation Program at Hagerstown Community College in Hagerstown, Maryland has grown substantially since its modest beginnings in 1995 with just two part-time instructors and seven students.

Today, HCC has 13 part-time instructors, and it trains 140 drivers per year. It has trained over 800 truck drivers to date. HCC students boast a 98% completion rate and a 95% job placement rate. The average annual starting pay for graduates is presently in the \$44,000 to \$60,000 range.

HCC was at a crossroads in the early 2000s. Shortly after Y2K, the transportation industry experienced a drastic shortage of qualified truck drivers, which was caused by industry growth and the retirement of experienced drivers. HCC recognized that the local I-70/I-81 corridor was a magnet for jobs in the transportation industry. As a result, it responded to this demand by applying for a Department of Labor (DOL) grant in order to expand its Commercial Vehicle Transportation program, train more drivers, and fulfill the demands of the local workforce.

HCC partnered with Volvo/Mack Powertrain of North America, D.M. Bowman, Inc., DOT Foods, USA Cartage, Hoffman Transport, Expedited Services, Inc., the Workforce Investment Program, Washington County Public Schools — and it received a \$1.65 million grant from the DOL in 2005. As a result of this partnership and DOL grant, HCC specifically has:

- Increased marketing efforts that include neighboring states, transportation companies, and state and county government and employment agencies;
- Conducted job fairs and open houses for the transportation industry;
- Purchased three new classroom buildings, three new Volvo trucks and a truck-driver simulator;
- Hired seven new truck-driver instructors;
- Increased yearly enrollment of truck drivers from 54 to 140;
- Is now the East Coast training provider for



*Pictured is one of HCC's three new 2006 Volvos purchased with the DOL grant. HCC received a \$1.65 million grant from the DOL to address the shortage of truck drivers in the quad-state region.*

YRC Enterprise Services (Yellow Roadway), one of the largest transportation service providers in the world;

- Provides customized driver training for local trucking companies; and
- Offers a certificate and an associate's degree in Transportation Management/Administration.

"We are pleased to be able to provide both the facility location and infrastructure support for this valuable venture," said **Roger Johnston**, vice president and general manager with Volvo Powertrain North America in Hagerstown. "Our ongoing partnership with Hagerstown Community College and its commercial transportation program is a perfect example of what can be accomplished when the business community and educational institutions work together. Each of us has benefited, and we and our truck customers will continue to benefit, from the school's location at our Volvo Powertrain North America facility, providing economic benefits to the area and an increased availability of highly-trained truck drivers for safe transports in this region."

D.M. Bowman, Inc. concurred. "D. M. Bowman, Inc. has had a long standing relationship with Hagerstown Community College. We have worked closely with the college in the development of the Truck Driver Training Program, and graduates of the program have become employees of our company. We look forward to a mutually beneficial future with Hagerstown Community College."

*For more information, contact Bob Simmers, commercial vehicle transportation coordinator at Hagerstown Community College, ATC Building, Rm.107, Hagerstown, MD 21742, (301) 790-2800, ext. 449.*



Check your Region —  
Contact your Region Coordinator.

### NAPFTDS FALL REGION CONFERENCES

Offering high-quality, workshops/seminars on national and regional issues for truck driving instructors and support staff. *Free of charge to attendees.* Allow about 1½ days per conference.

**Check your Region - Contact your Region Coordinator**

#### Region #1

Dec. 6-7 Thurs., Fri.

**Wade Westphal**, Coordinator  
Bates Technical College  
Tacoma, WA

Ph. 253-680-7491

#### Region #2

Nov. 1-2 Thurs., Fri.

**Charles Blagg**, Coordinator  
Glendale Community College  
Glendale, AZ

Ph. 623-845-3294

#### Region #3

Oct. 4-5 Thurs., Fri.

**Bob Loughan & Dave Keays**, Coordinators  
Chippewa Valley Technical College  
Eau Claire, WI

Ph. 715-855-7545

#### Region #4

Nov. 8-9 Thurs., Fri.

**Bentley Wallace**, Coordinator  
Arkansas State University-Newport  
Newport, AR

Ph. 870-512-7710

#### Region #5

Sept. 27-28 Thurs., Fri.

**Bob Howard**, Coordinator  
Lincoln Land Community College  
Springfield, IL

Ph. 217-786-2565

#### Region #6

Dec. 6-7 Thurs., Fri.

**Brenda Madan**, Coordinator  
Altamaha Technical college  
Baxley, GA

Ph. 888-755-2832

#### Region #7

Oct. 11-12 Thurs., Fri.

**Stacy Miller**, Coordinator  
Cecil Community College  
North East, MD

Ph. 410-287-6060

**Vendors are encouraged to exhibit products or services at Region Conferences. Cost to exhibit is \$150 at each Region.**

### National Convention

March 26-28, 2008

— Hotel Site TBD —

**Houston, TX**

## In This Issue

- ♦ **President's Message**
- ♦ **Convention Highlights**
- ♦ **New Board Leaders**

## President's Message

Dave Terry



It is a privilege to serve as your new president. I stepped up from my vice-presidential role after **Arlene Kirby** retired from her board position as president in March. Arlene took a new position with a private firm to serve as its training director. On behalf of our membership, I thank Arlene for her long-time service to NAPFTDS, her strategic planning, and her wise and caring leadership.

Our spring 2007 National Convention was so very successful because of the dedicated people who devoted their valuable time to make it all possible. We appreciate committee members **Martin Garsee**, **Phil Steinkamp**, **Roy Williams** — and their assistants **Tina Frindt**, **Crissie Moffet**, and **Patrick Spillane**. We are also grateful to our generous sponsors, the expert presenters, and the school administrators who sent school reps to the convention. And my thanks go out to each one of you, our members, who participated.

Now let's look ahead to National Convention 2008. Mark your calendars! The board agreed to March 26-28, Wednesday through Friday. The site is Houston, TX.

On the immediate horizon, the NAPFTDS Board and our membership are looking forward to addressing an issue that is very important to all of us. It is the long-awaited, proposed notice of rulemaking regarding entry-level truck driver training. Our board will most definitely respond in writing to this notice. At our convention, **Robert McClanahan**, NAPFTDS Legislative Issues Chairperson, reviewed recent position statements by other truck-related associations regarding this issue. Our board members expressed concern that these groups, at this time, had not identified a measurable standard for the training of entry-level drivers. If you have any input related to this issue, please contact any of our board members.

Our Association is also active right now in planning for our Fall Region Conferences. NAPFTDS has made it a high priority to provide professional growth opportunities to all of our public truck driving schools. We realize that some instructors and support staff are not able to attend the National Convention, but they can travel shorter distances to a Fall Region Conference. Thus, we offer seven high-quality workshops/seminars in various locations throughout the country. They are free and offer you an excellent opportunity to get updates on issues in your region. They also offer a great chance to share ideas with other school and industry reps. Please see this issue for conference listings, and contact the Region Coordinator in your region.

**Have a wonderful summer!**

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LEARNING  
*Curve*

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## Expert Presenters, Progressive Members Exchange Ideas

With a large banner announcing the theme, *Building a Strong Foundation for Professional Drivers*, members gathered for our NAPFTDS National Convention on March 28-31 at the Radisson/Orlando.

**President Dave Terry** was pleased with the size and quality of the convention. Eighty members attended, including representation from 41 schools within 24 states. Seven vendor/sponsors and six carrier/sponsors supported our gathering.

Members were very grateful to the presenters. **Mike Lamm**, FMCSA, explained federal grant opportunities. **Robert McClanahan**, defining a variety of forthcoming issues, focused on entry-level training and sought input from attendees. **Richard Scheig, Ph.D.**, described the value of assessment testing tools related to truck driver career counseling. **Ellen Voie** discussed innovative best practices related to the retention of truck drivers at Schneider National. **Vincent Picciarelli** detailed the complexities and challenges of administering drug and alcohol tests within the school training area. **Kevin Lewis** explained the forthcoming CDL test procedures that will be administered by all state DOTs.

**Chris Antonik** updated members on the training simulation validation study, part of which is taking place at his college. **Bill Hitesman** and **Mike Schlachter** explained

the positive impact of a \$1.9 million grant awarded to their college. **Roy Williams** described the Hope Grant which provides dollars from the Georgia lottery to pay 100% of post-high school tuition, including tuition for truck driver training.

**Ramona Garcia** discussed the transition that took place while her college — a public school contracting with a proprietary school — converted solely to a publicly funded school. **Bette Brown** explained the challenges involved within an academic community, as her program changed to a credit-based truck driving program while using a private school to conduct the training. **Rob Behnke** defined the comprehensive array of courses/services that are available, at his school, to the trucking industry and other occupations that require driving skills.

During the Recognition Banquet, special plaques were presented: **Arlene Kirby**, retiring president, for her strategic planning and leadership; **Bob Rader**, Roehl Transport, for his visionary thinking and wise advice for NAPFTDS; **J.J. Keller & Associates** for their loyal and generous support, and their commitment to providing the nation with safe, well-trained drivers. **Deb Meyer** accepted the award on behalf of Keller. **Chuck Collins**, in recognition of his end-of-year retirement as NAPFTDS executive director, received an appreciation plaque.

## Congrats to New Board Leaders!

During meetings held at the National Convention, NAPFTDS members installed new directors to the Board. Elected members are:

- **Dave Terry**, PRESIDENT for a two-year term, from 2007-2009. Terry is from Southwest Applied Technical College in Cedar City, UT.
- **Phil Steinkamp**, VICE PRESIDENT for a two-year term, assuming the presidential role in 2009. Steinkamp is from John Wood Community College in Quincy, IL.
- **Rob Behnke**, Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton, WI.
- **Mary Beth Poole McCollum**, College of Southern Maryland, La Plata, MD.
- **Bentley Wallace**, Arkansas State University — Newport, Newport, AR.
- **Bob Weining**, EMCC Golden Triangle Campus, Mayhew, MS.
- **Stephanie Stasolla**, FIRST ALTERNATE, assuming a Board position if a vacancy occurs. Stasolla is from Savannah Technical College in Savannah, GA.

*Leaders, whose positions were not up for*

*re-election, and who will remain on the Board:*

**David Young**, SECRETARY;  
**Tina Frindt**, TREASURER;  
**K. Michael O'Connell**, CVTA REP;  
**Martin Garsee**,  
**Dave Keays**,  
**John Rojas**, and  
**Roy Williams**.

Appointed by the president to serve on the Board: **VENDOR REPRESENTATIVE, Debra Meyer**, J.J. Keller & Associates; and **CARRIER REPRESENTATIVE, Ken Smith**, Schneider National.

Invited to serve on the Board as **PAST PRESIDENTS: Arlene Kirby, Bill Fath, Robert McClanahan, Wade Westphal, Don Hess, Van O'Neal, John Theroux, John Hale, Barry Cope** and **Chuck Collins**.

**Crissie Moffet**, Wichita Area Technical College — Seneca Campus, Wichita, KS, agreed to continue to provide her excellent technical assistance to the Board.

Outgoing members of the Board are **Carol Colwell** and **Tammy Smith**. Many thanks to these individuals who, by sharing their time and talents, have helped our Association promote high training standards within our programs!



## PLATINUM

J. J. Keller & Associates  
Schneider National

## GOLD

Thomson Delmar Learning

## SILVER

Doron Precision Systems  
Roehl Transport  
U.S. Xpress Enterprises  
Werner Enterprises

## BRONZE

Applied Simulation Systems  
Foley Services  
GearMaster International  
Lanmarx Graphix  
Mike Byrnes & Associates

# Special Thanks to Our Convention Sponsors for their Financial Support! Please Consider Their Fine Services & Products.

## Convention 2007

With appreciation to Roy and Sarah Williams,  
Photographers!



▲ NAPFTDS recognizes dedication of State Membership Captains.



◀ Sponsors & members share hospitality: Ellen Voie, Homer Paul, Bentley Wallace & John Rojas.



◀ 2007 Board of Directors



◀ We appreciate our generous sponsors!



◀ Paul Foster, MN, participates in Board nomination process.



◀ Michael Stricek demonstrates Doron Precision Systems.



◀ Welcoming attendees: Tina Frindt & Crissie Moffet.



◀ Martin Garsee (left) thanks Richard Scheig, Ph.D., for assessment systems presentation.



▲ Brenda Madan, Laura Kingsland & Ramona Garcia share notes.



◀ John Frey discusses benefits of Werner Enterprises



◀ Kent Price points out value of GearMaster system.



Kevin Lewis, AAMVA, (left) accepts speaker's gift from Martin Garsee. ▼



▲ Chris Antonik, DE, explains simulator validation study.



▲ President Dave Terry expresses gratitude to J.J. Keller & Associates, Deb Meyer.



▲ Thank you to J.J. Keller & Associates and Schneider National! Reps: Deb Meyer & Ken Smith.



◀ Ken Smith, Schneider National, stresses importance of qualified drivers.



▲ Bill Hitesman explains impact of federal grant awarded.



◀ Bob Rader, Roehl Transport, receives honorary plaque.



◀ Bette Brown, MA, defines credit-based programs.



▲ Rob Behnke, WI, describes Fox Valley Tech program offerings.



◀ Mike Lamm, FMCSA, presents grant info.



▲ Van O'Neal, TX, & Randy Scheel, Hightower Agency, exchange ideas.



◀ Vincent Picciarelli explains drug & alcohol testing regs.



◀ Jim Barnett, Lanmarx Graphix, describes design services.



◀ Greg Koepel, Roehl Transport, appreciates well-trained students.



◀ Homer Paul explains unique aspects of U.S. Xpress.



# McClanahan Honored for Advocacy

Robert McClanahan, Director of Transportation & Safety Education at Central Tech in Drumright, OK, was awarded the ninth annual **Lee J. Crittenden Memorial Award** by the Professional Truck Driver Institute (PTDI). The award, which is given to the person who has done the most to advance the ideals and goals of PTDI, was presented in March at the Truckload Carriers Association's (TCA's) annual convention.

McClanahan was cited for his 27 years of service in the transportation industry, which includes experience as a driver, owner/operator, vice president of a family trucking company, operations and dispatch, and vocational education. He has been a superb advocate of truck driver training standards throughout his career, and was instrumental in the development of the PTDI standards from the beginning.

Besides serving on the PTDI Board of Directors for many years, McClanahan was president of NAPFTDS from 2002-2004. He is also actively involved in committee work for both organizations. Throughout his participation in these groups, he listens attentively to other points of view, he weighs all options before making a decision, and he exhibits common sense when determining a plan of action. He is most knowledgeable in the truck driver training field because of his passion for safety, and he takes the

time and makes the effort to become informed. His actions reflect a practical, realistic approach to change. McClanahan is respected nationwide.

"When Robert was President of NAPFTDS, his leadership took our young association a giant step forward," says **Chuck Collins**, executive director, NAPFTDS. "At the heart of his philosophy is safety, and at the core of his concern is the student's welfare as well as the employer's needs."

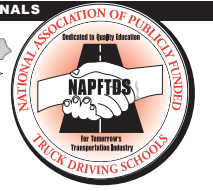
In presenting the award, **Ray Haight**, Chairman of PTDI and Executive Director of MacKinnon Transport, stated: "Robert has been instrumental in helping to keep PTDI moving forward, he has labored and reviewed the standards and has worked diligently with his committee to keep these standards at their highest quality."

Crittenden, for whom the award is named, had worked for CitiCapital. He helped many important industry activities get their start and was largely responsible for the creation of America's Road Team. He also initiated a scholarship program for drivers who participate in the National Truck Driving Championships, and he played a key role in founding PTDI.

*From the TCA Newsletter, March 14, 2007; with appreciation to Nancy O'Liddy, PTDI Director; & Marlene Dakita, Certification Coordinator.*



NEWSLETTER FOR PROFESSIONALS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
<b>Dave Terry</b>	PRESIDENT Southwest Applied Technical College Cedar City, UT
<b>Phil Steinkamp</b>	VICE PRESIDENT John Wood Community College Quincy, IL
<b>David Young</b>	SECRETARY Wichita Area Technical College - Seneca Center Wichita, KS
<b>Tina Frindt</b>	TREASURER Northampton Community College Tobyhanna, PA
<b>K. Michael O'Connell</b>	CVTA REP. Executive Director & Counsel, CVTA Springfield, VA
<b>Rob Behnke</b>	Fox Valley Technical College Appleton, WI
<b>Martin Garsee</b>	Houston Community College Houston, TX
<b>Dave Keays</b>	Chippewa Valley Tech Eau Claire, WI
<b>Mary Beth Poole McCollum</b>	College of Southern Maryland La Plata, MD
<b>John Rojas</b>	Del Mar College Corpus Christi, TX
<b>Bentley Wallace</b>	Arkansas State University — Newport Newport, AR
<b>Bob Weining</b>	EMCC Golden Triangle Campus Mayhew, MS
<b>Roy Williams</b>	Sandersville Technical College Sandersville, GA
<b>Debra Meyer</b>	VENDOR REP. J.J. Keller & Associates Neenah, WI
<b>Ken Smith</b>	CARRIER REP. Schneider National Green Bay, WI

## PAST PRESIDENTS

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Arlene Kirby</b>      | <b>Van O'Neal</b>    |
| <b>Bill Fath</b>         | <b>John Theroux</b>  |
| <b>Robert McClanahan</b> | <b>John Hale</b>     |
| <b>Wade Westphal</b>     | <b>Barry Cope</b>    |
| <b>Don Hess</b>          | <b>Chuck Collins</b> |

**Chuck Collins** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Ph: 920-739-9786

## Retreat Highlights

With all of the 12 current members in attendance, the NAPFTDS Board of Directors met in Retreat, to work on issues pertaining to the advancement of the association. Under the leadership of then President **Arlene Kirby**, the meetings were held on January 25-26 in Corpus Christi, TX. Kirby expressed sincere appreciation to **John Rojas**, Program Director for Truck Driver Training, Delmar Community College, who coordinated meeting arrangements. She also thanked **Homer Paul**, Field Recruiter Manager, for the hospitality provided by U.S. Xpress, Inc.

Welcomed at the Retreat — and lending wisdom and experience to the issues — were Past Presidents **Bill Fath**, **Van O'Neal**, and **Robert McClanahan**. They participated in the thoughtful discussion of many agenda items set before the Board.

The directors agreed to add to the Board, by presidential appointment, two carrier representatives and two vendor representatives. Each representative would have voting rights and would serve a two-year term.

The role of past presidents was also re-defined. Board members agreed that each past president could continue service on the Board, holding voting rights, as long as s/he is employed by a publicly funded school and/or is employed within the trucking industry or a trucking-related industry.

Other timely topics filled the agenda: review of the strategic plan, marketing-website, member recruitment, the budget status by Treasurer **Tina Frindt**, and a CVTA update by **K. Michael O'Connell**.

*With gratitude to Crissie Moffet, Technical Assistant to the Board, this report is based on her minutes of the meeting.*