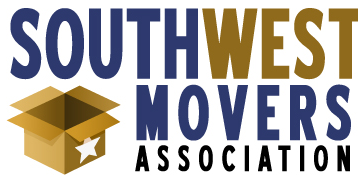


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MOVEFAX

March 26, 2010

Dear SMA Member:

The SMA Winter/Spring meeting is April 15-16, with the GHMA annual fundraiser golf tournament taking place the day before, on the 14. While that is over two weeks away, the cut off date for the hotel is Wednesday of next week, March 31. SMA has negotiated a room rate of \$129 for our attendees. Make hotel reservations with the Marriott by calling the hotel at 281-275-8400 and mention Code SMASMAA. Availability in the block is limited and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. For more information contact Tammy at 800-759-2305 or tammy@tmta.com. The address of the hotel is: Sugar Land Marriott Town Square 16090 City Walk, Sugar Land, Texas 77479

After further review of the recommendations by the Long Range Planning Committee and the comments received from members in the survey, the Friday agenda has been amended.

Wednesday - April 14, 2010 The GHMA golf tournament schedule was not changed. Please see your separate registration form for times and instructions.

Thursday - April 15, 2010 - SMA member meetings agenda: (No changes for Thursday)

8:30 a.m. - Registration Opens
 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. - Executive Committee Meeting
 11:00 a.m. - Noon - SMA Foundation Board of Trustees
 Noon - 1:00 p.m. - Luncheon - John Esparza, Speaker
 1:00 - 2:20 p.m. - Government Relations
 2:30 - 3:50 p.m. - Membership
 4:00 - 5:20 p.m. - Education
 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. - Reception
 6:30 p.m. - MovePAC Fundraising Dinner (Pre-registration required)

Friday - April 16, 2010 - (Time changes and Public Relations meeting added)

7:00 a.m. - Registration Opens

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7:15 - 8:00 a.m. - Breakfast
8:00 - 9:00 a.m. - Pinnacle Mover
9:00 - 10:00 a.m. - Public Relations
10:00 - 11:00 a.m. - Board and General Membership Meeting

If you have reserved with the Hotel and have not registered with SMA, please do so right away. It is a great deal of help to the staff to have your registrations as early as possible in advance of the meeting. This allows us to make name badges, attach ribbons, print agendas, minutes and make packets as well as make reasonable guarantees to the hotel for meal and reception functions.

Thanks so much. See you in April at the meetings.

Dorothy Brooks
Director of Operations

SMA Event Calendar for 2010

SMA/GHMA Combined Meeting and Golf Tournament: April 14-16, Marriott Town Square Hotel, Sugar Land, TX

National Council of Moving Associations: June 8-10, St. Louis, MO

Summer Membership Meeting: July 11-13, Embassy Suites, Hot Springs, AR

Annual Membership Conference: Sept. 22-24, Lost Pines Resort and Spa, Bastrop, TX

New Driver License System Rolls Out

The Texas Department of Public Safety is working to improve the appearance and operations of driver license division (DLD) offices across the state as well as equip each office with the new Driver License System (DLS) computers and equipment. The new DLS will replace the 25-year old mainframe-based DLD computer system with a state-of-the-art, web-based system.

The benefits of utilizing DLS in the 307 driver license offices across Texas are: data will be more quickly and efficiently collected, stored and retrieved; applicants' identity and documents will be more easily verified; driver license data will be updated in near real-time and programming upgrades and updates will be made more quickly and efficiently.

The DLS is operational in more than 88 driver license offices around the state. All 307 DLD offices are scheduled to be operating on the DLS by May 2010, with about 12 offices per week transitioning to the new network until then.

Opposition is Widespread to Union-backed Change to Federal Transportation Law

There has been a groundswell of opposition to a campaign by the Teamsters union and allied politicians to change longstanding federal transportation law. The union is seeking taxpayer-funded help in organizing port drayage truck drivers by banning independent owner operators from ports. The Teamsters hope to attain this by pushing Congress to change the Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act (FAAAA), which prevents

state and local jurisdictions from regulating interstate trucking and commerce.

U.S. Rep. Gary Miller (R-Calif.) this week released a "Dear Colleague" letter opposing the Teamster effort. "Compliance with air quality standards should be determined on a truck by truck basis without regard to the employee or ownership status of the driver of that truck," Rep. Miller said.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers also oppose any change to the FAAAA. The American Association of Port Authorities also refused to endorse the Port of Los Angeles position on amending the FAAAA. That organization, which represents more than 140 port authorities, expressly rejected a Port of Los Angeles backed resolution calling for the amendment of the FAAAA.

Teamsters' supporters are circulating a letter that repeats several false claims from the union and promotes the Port of Los Angeles Clean Truck Program as the model pollution-fighting plan.

NAFTA Trade Declines 23.3 Percent from 2008

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics of the U.S. Department of Transportation announced that trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners decreased by 23.3 percent in 2009 compared to 2008, dropping to \$637 billion. The 23.3 percent decline in trade was the largest year-to-year decline for the 15 years since NAFTA went into effect in 1994. Surface transportation trade between the U.S. and Canada totaled \$386 billion in 2009, a decrease of 28.1 percent compared to 2008. Similarly, trade between the U.S. and Mexico totaled \$251 billion last year, a decrease of 14.4 percent compared to 2008. In 2009, 86.6 percent of U.S. merchandise trade by value with Canada and Mexico moved on land. Total North American surface transportation trade value in 2009 increased 0.5 percent compared to 2004, and was up 27 percent compared to 1999.

Safety Belt Usage Increases Nearly 10 Percent Among Commercial Drivers

Safety belt usage among commercial truck and bus drivers significantly increased to 74 percent in 2009 from 65 percent in 2007, according to new data released by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). The increase demonstrates the effectiveness of safety initiatives by the American Trucking Associations (ATA), the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) and FMCSA that aim to improve safety on our nation's highways.

Townhall Meetings Scheduled for Lubbock, Seguin, Tyler

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is partnering with the Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to host a town hall meeting at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 31 in the City of Lubbock Council Chambers, 1625 13th Street.

TxDOT, along with the Lubbock MPO and other local transportation representatives, will be on hand to answer questions and provide information on projects and funding, including a brief perspective on regional infrastructure requirements for the future.

Citizens are encouraged to attend these meetings and provide feedback on regional

transportation issues. The information received will be used to help Texas plan and develop an efficient transportation system.

Other cities scheduled for town hall meetings include:

April 14 in San Angelo
McNease Convention Center
500 Rio Concho Drive

May 5 in Seguin
Location to be announced

June 10 in Tyler
University of Texas at Tyler
Robert R. Muntz Library
3900 University Blvd.

Reminder: TxDOT Seeks Public Comment by April 19

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is soliciting comment on revisions to department transportation planning and programming rules in Title 43 of the Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 15.

The latest version of the draft planning and programming rules may be viewed on the TxDOT website. Comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. on April 19.

TMTA Austin Chapter Meeting April 21

SMA members are invited to join the TMTA Austin Chapter for a meeting on Wednesday, April 21 at the Catfish Parlour on 4705 East Ben White in Austin from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$20 to attend. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Save the Date: TMTA Metroplex Chapter Meeting

SMA members are invited to join the TMTA Metroplex Chapter for a meeting on April 22 at Cacharel Restaurant in Arlington. Attendees will hear from honored guests representing the Dallas and Fort Worth areas.

Special Guests:

Chairman John Carona, Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee (Dallas)
Senator Wendy Davis, Senate Transportation Committee member (Fort Worth)

The meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. Attendees should register for the event by visiting:
www.tmta.com

Safety Audit/CSA 2010 Overview - April 13

How to Prepare for a Safety Audit/CSA 2010 Overview
April 13, 2010
TMTA Weller Training Institute
Austin, Texas

The TMTA Training Institute in cooperation with Leon Feazell, the former state director of Texas U.S. Department of Transportation, will be conducting a seminar concerning the

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations and CSA 2010.

This course will take place at the TMTA Weller Training Institute located at 700 E. 11th Street in Austin, Texas (TMTA Offices) 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on April 13.

The cost is \$150 for SMA/TMTA members and \$190 for non-members.

Attendees will receive information on FMCSA current and future audit procedures:

- * What items trigger a safety audit
- * What questions will be asked
- * What records will be checked
- * How records are selected
- * Differences in acute and critical violations
- * How penalties are determined
- * How your carrier rating is determined
- * How to prepare for CSA 2010

For more information, contact Lance Shillingburg at 800-727-7135, lance@tmta.com
Registration help, contact Tammy at 800-727-7135, tammy@tmta.com

To register, visit: www.tmta.com

Winter/Spring Member Meetings - April 14-16

Don't forget to register for the Winter/Spring Member Meetings in Sugar Land, Texas. The GHMA Golf Tournament will kick off the gathering on April 14. Meetings will follow on April 15 and 16. The meetings are open to all SMA members. Please register today at: www.southwestmovers.org

SMA Foundation Scholarship Applications Due May 14

The SMA Foundation application for scholarships is posted on the SMA website. Members who have students (family, employees and employee families) who will be headed for colleges and universities at the end of the current school year are asked to encourage their students to file their application for SMA Scholarships. Download an application at www.mytexasmover.com. The new deadline reply date for submitting scholarship applications is **May 14, 2010**, so schools should be asked now for a sealed copy of the mid-term transcript to send with your application.

Order Today: Revised Texas Safety Regulations Available

Revised Texas Motor Carrier Safety Regulations are now available. Revisions are 39.95. If you would like a complete, bound set, the cost is 59.95. To place your order, contact TMTA at 512.478.2541 or jason@tmta.com.

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