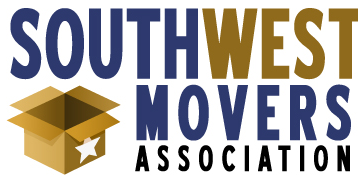


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MOVEFAX

June 4, 2010

Dear SMA Member:

SMA Foundation Scholarship Applications - We are targeting June 15 as the date we will have all the votes in and be able to announce the scholarship recipients.

We sent out a donation form last week through email that members can use to support the SMA Foundation Silent Auction. If you missed it, call SMA and we will send another one. Please consider supporting the purchase of some really neat stuff for the SMA Foundation Auction with your tax deductible donation. It is much appreciated.

Please mark your calendars now for the summer meeting, July 11-13 in Hot Springs, AR; a registration form went out last week to all members. We are working toward another education packed annual meeting, September 22-24 at the beautiful Lost Pines Resort, Lost Pines, TX. It is anticipated we will again have members attend just for the day of education sessions, however, we hope this will help attendance at our future meetings.

Speaking of calendars - SMA members are invited to attend TMTA regional meetings and address locations may be found on the TMTA website at www.tmta.com, Local Chapters.

Dorothy Brooks
Director of Operations

SMA Foundation Fundraiser - Silent Auction

The trustees voted at their September meeting to sponsor a silent auction at the 2010 September meeting. SMA members have the opportunity to support the Foundation by making cash donations for the purchase of items to go into the silent auction. Donation of items, in lieu of cash, will be considered as well. To prevent overlapping or duplication of items, please email dorothy@tmta.com first to make sure the same item has not already been donated.

Checks should be made payable to SMA Foundation, with a note on the subject line: "Silent Auction". The SMA Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. Contributions to the

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SMA Foundation may be tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor.

Annual Conference Education/Seminar Topics

Last year, the format of the annual conference was altered to bring more emphasis to education and make it available without charge and without any obligation to attend the full conference. It is our plan to follow the same format for this year's annual conference.

At this time, we have scheduled "Power of the Internet, Search Engines and Web Sites" with Sean Burchell, who appeared at the Kerrville meeting last year, and "Going from Good to Great: Will Your Company be an Enduring Company" with Bobby Albert and Jason Turner, The Albert Companies, Wichita Falls, TX.

We still need suggestions for two more sessions, so please let us hear from you. The CSA 2010 seminars hosted by TMTA have concluded, however, if there are a sufficient number of SMA members who missed these seminars, please let the staff know and we will look into scheduling one as part of the education focus.

Rogue Mover Crackdown

The May/June issue of AMSA's Direction magazine reported on a statewide crackdown in Florida and three arrests in Washington of rogue operators posing as legitimate movers. In Florida, the operators of nine moving companies were cited by the state's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for operating an unregistered business. Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement employees posed as customers who needed movers. After they hired one of the companies, the rogue operators were criminally charged with operating an unregistered moving company (a misdemeanor), which could lead to a year in jail and a fine up to \$5,000. In Washington, three men posing as movers, and driving a fraudulently decaled Atlas Van Line truck as well as shirts with the Atlas logo, had bid \$1,800 via the internet for a move. When they upped the bid to \$5,100 after loading, the customer called Atlas headquarters who confirmed the operators were not theirs, and then called the police before confronting the movers. Finding no license plates on the truck, the operator told her he didn't "have time to deal with her and would unload her belongings for only \$400 cash and she was not to call the police." When the officers arrived they arrested the men-after they unloaded her belongings.

False Use of Your Company Name or Logo

Bob Russo, Executive Director of the New Jersey Warehousemen Association, sent us a handy way to help find anyone using your name or logo without your authorization. It is free and it helped him find many websites that advertised they were members when they weren't. Register with <http://www.google.com>, and then go to "My products". Look for "alerts". You can create alerts to monitor any name of your choosing. You will receive an email notification every time that name is used online. To look for illegal use of your logos or pictures, go to <http://www.tineye.com/>. Perform a reverse search for people using your logo or even a variation of it.

Five Ways to Mitigate Risk during the Busy Season

With summer fast approaching and home sales showing signs of improvement (crossing our fingers), the moving season is in full swing and it's time to prepare for an increase in workload. While we all welcome the surge in business, let's not forget that more work being done equals more chance for mistakes-and mistakes cost money. Following are five ways

moving and storage companies can keep risk to a minimum in order to fully capitalize on the busy season:

- Hire responsible helpers. In beefing up your crews for the busy season, don't forget to do some careful screening of your applicants. Check on referrals, and ask questions about the applicant's work experience, ethic, and attention to detail. If your primary source of labor is local college students, don't be shy to ask for grades. Remember, you're looking for brains as well as brawn.
- Don't breeze through the training. You want to get your new help out in the field just as much as they'd like to avoid watching hours of instructional videos. Make sure your program keeps the attention of your trainees by mixing in some hands-on tests in the warehouse in between lessons. The faster your helpers pick up proper techniques, the less chance there is that they'll make mistakes handling your customers' belongings.
- Keep your crews healthy and happy. Mistakes happen when people are tired, overworked or unsatisfied with their jobs. Make sure your summer crew is well-aware of the importance of hydration, taking appropriate breaks and on-the-job safety. Keep your employees happy by showing your appreciation for all their hard work by scheduling a summer barbecue or two.
- Reward attention to safety. Research shows that small rewards can go a long way. Hold monthly competitions for safety standards and give the winner a gift card or other fun prize.
- Keep the bar high. It is often easy to passively allow guidelines and regulations to loosen- especially when your crew is working longer, harder days. Set and keep the bar high, by communicating high expectations regularly. *(Copied from a posting by Relocation Insurance Group, LLC)*

All My Sons, Dallas - Moving Internationally

SMA member, Dallas-based, All My Sons Moving and Storage has announced the launch of its Web site geared for international relocation needs. According to spokesman Orlando Gomez, the All My Sons International Movers site places answers at consumers' fingertips about moving overseas, and allows individuals access to the 'get a quote' feature and a host of other services.

Roadcheck is Next Week - June 8-10

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance has scheduled its annual Roadcheck event for June 8-10. Roadcheck is a 72-hour event in which an estimated 10,000 inspectors set up more than 1,000 checkpoints on highways across North America to monitor truck safety compliance.

Legislative Committee Hearings Set for Next Week

Senate Committee on Transportation & Homeland Security June 8, 2010 - 10:00 AM

The Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security will receive and consider invited and public testimony regarding these interim charges: CHARGE 3: Recommend improvements to homeland security, including the state's infrastructure and housing recovery operations. CHARGE 7: Study and make recommendations to expedite the environmental review process for transportation projects. CHARGE 9: Review the 100 most congested roadway segments and determine if alternative congestion relief modes have been identified to relieve segments in areas where the addition of lanes is not possible.

House Committee on Transportation**June 9, 2010 - 10:00 AM**

The House Committee on Transportation will meet in a public hearing and will hear invited testimony from Grant Thornton, the consultant selected to conduct a thorough review of the department's organization and management structure.

Presidential Memorandum Calls For National Fuel Economy Standards

Leaders of the American Trucking Associations (ATA) joined President Obama at the White House May 21 for his signing of a presidential memorandum that directs the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency to develop national standards for fuel economy and greenhouse gas emissions for heavy- and medium-duty trucks. The President's announcement effectively endorses the ATA Sustainability Task Force recommendation in 2008 that called for national fuel economy standards for trucks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

ATA Chairman Tommy Hodges, who will be speaking at TMTA's annual conference, and a number of executives of ATA met with the President in the White House before the signing ceremony. Chairman Hodges' presence was especially well-suited because he has chaired the ATA's Sustainability Task Force for three years.

The President said that products and technologies available today could improve fuel economy by 25 percent and that the new regulations should be completed in 2011 and go into effect starting with model year 2014 equipment.

SMA Event Calendar for 2010

June 8-10 - Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance Roadcheck**June 8-10 - National Council of Moving Associations, St. Louis, MO****July 11-13 - Summer Membership Meeting - Embassy Suites, Hot Springs, AR****September 22-24 - Annual Meeting & Trade Show, Lost Pines Resort, Lost Pines, TX**

TMTA local chapter location addresses are posted on www.tmta.com.

June 16 - Houston Local Chapter Meeting

June 23 - Amarillo Local Chapter Meeting

July 13 - Tyler Local Chapter Meeting

July 21 - Houston Local Chapter Meeting

July 28 - Amarillo Local Chapter Meeting

July 27 - 29 - TMTA Annual Conference

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