

May 2, 2008

2008 Unified Carrier Registration Deadline - May 15

2008 Unified Carrier Registration packets were mailed to Texas based motor carriers, brokers, leasing companies and freight forwarders that have U.S. DOT numbers. Individuals and companies that operate commercial motor vehicles, and those that provide freight forwarding, brokering, or leasing of motor vehicles to a motor carrier, private carrier or freight forwarder must register their business with TxDOT and pay an annual fee. Revenue generated will help enforce motor carrier safety programs. You must register by May 15 to comply. Les Findeisen on the TMTA staff can answer your questions; call him at 800727-7135.

SMA Mover and Loader Certification Classes With Emphasis on Safety - May 21-22 -

Register for the **Mover and Loader Certification Class, May 21-22; deadline for registration is May 19.**

Cancellations will be honored upon notice of one day and will be re-scheduled for the next class that has openings available.

Day one only-New hire/new mover & safety training - \$195.

Day two only: Loader Training - \$195.

Both: Day 1 & 2 - (consecutive days only) - \$295.

Have questions about what the classes cover? Call Tom Herrick, trainer at 936/581-4032.

Reward for Information on Suspect in Texas State Trooper Shooting

Several East Texas businesses and District Attorney's office have put up a \$30,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the person responsible for the death of Trooper James Scott Burns. Anyone with information is asked to call DPS at 888-244-0827 or 888-244-0829. Law enforcement officers throughout the state are looking for Brandon Wayne Robertson, 37, who is a suspect in the fatal shooting of the DPS trooper Tuesday night in Marion County near Lake O' the Pines. Robertson was last seen driving a blue Dodge Intrepid with Texas license plate 039-LCG.

Mark Your Calendars - 2008

June 23 - Deadline for SMA Foundation Scholarships

July 13-15 - SMA summer meeting, Lake Tahoe, NV

Sept. 22-24 - SMA annual conference, Lake Charles, LA

Oct 22 - Austin Board of Realtors Trade Show

Mark Your Calendars - 2009

February 8-11 - AMSA Conference & Expo - Dallas, TX

February 16-17 - SMA Moving & Trucking Day at the Capitol

SMA SUMMER MEETING - JULY 13-15,

The code to receive the group rate of \$119 Sunday through Tuesday for the SMA summer board meeting being held at the Montbleu Resort, Lake Tahoe, NV is STSMA 8. Click on book a room at the top right corner of the website www.montbleuresort.com/. Hotel cut-off date is June 27 for the \$119 group rate.

The nominating committee chaired by April Surratt will meet to select nominees for Board and Officer posts in 2009.

SMA Foundation Scholarship Applications

The SMA Foundation received its first scholarship application yesterday. Please encourage your employees to file an application. Applications for the 2008 SMA Foundation Scholarships are available at www.mytexasmover.com. The deadline for applying is Monday, June 23.

To raise supporting funds for the SMA Foundation, the Trustees have selected an enticing array of items for which **raffle tickets** will become available soon.

- A trailer-smoker - sponsored by Victory Packaging, Chris Moucka, Julie & Joe Harris, Anneliese & Terry Arnold
- A brooch with matching earrings - donated by Robin & George Gilbert
- A four-day vacation retreat at Wildoat Ranch near San Antonio - donated by Lynn & Dave Ryberg
- A Backing Digital Camera - allows driver to see what is behind the vehicle before backing - donated by Bob Adams.

Cost of printing the raffle tickets will be sponsored by associate member, Movers Equipment Services.

As soon as tickets are printed, they will be available from the Foundation Trustees, from SMA staff, at the summer board meeting. Tickets will be \$10 each or 3 for \$20.

Military Table of Weights & Depreciation

SMA has copies of the military chart or table of weights considered standard for individual pieces of household goods. The book also contains the depreciation schedule. Price is \$20, plus postage, and tax of 8.25%. Members may email info@southwestmovers.org, fax 512/476-0940, or call 800/759-2305 to order.

Options for Carrier Limitation of Liability

From the TxDOT Rule Book § 18.58: If you do not use the SMA moving contract for Texas moves, be sure that the carrier limitation of liability language on your form is verbatim of option 1 (short version), or option 2 (long version) in §18.58 of the TxDOT Rule book. If the carrier chooses to use additional limitations of liability, it must be one of these two options, verbatim.