



THE BULLETIN

MISSISSIPPI TRUCKING ASSOCIATION SPRING TRUCK PAC 4-MAN SCRAMBLE GOLF TOURNAMENT



REUNION GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Madison, Mississippi • Monday, April 17

Deadline to register – Friday, March 31

Registration & Buffet Lunch 11:30 am

Shotgun start 1 pm

Cocktails & Appetizers served after Tournament

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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It is hard to believe we are almost through with the first quarter of 2023! The first three months of the year mean busy times for your MTA staff as the Mississippi Legislature is in session. Of course, your staff has been diligently planning for the PAC spring golf tournament, Truck Driving Championship, another legendary convention, LEAD MTA events, and the upcoming Foundation scholarship season.

As reported in earlier legislative updates, over 3,000 bills have been presented for consideration, of which we had identified well over 100 that were of interest/concern for MTA. Fortunately, many of these have died last week which gave us clarity as to which ones may require more work. The bills we had earmarked for action involved a variety of subjects. Some of the areas were Alternative Fuels, CDLs, Radar, Workers Comp, Infrastructure, Work Force Development, Liability Insurance, Harvest

Permits, Trailer Tags, Software Taxes, and Autonomous Vehicles. We are down to the last few weeks of the session, and, to this point, our industry has fared well in this session, as has most of the business community. We will give a final report once the session is complete. I would be remiss if I didn't note that our good fortune in the Capitol is certainly a result of well-invested campaign contributions from our PAC to those candidates who understand the importance of a healthy trucking industry. Please remember that when the opportunity presents itself to support our PAC!

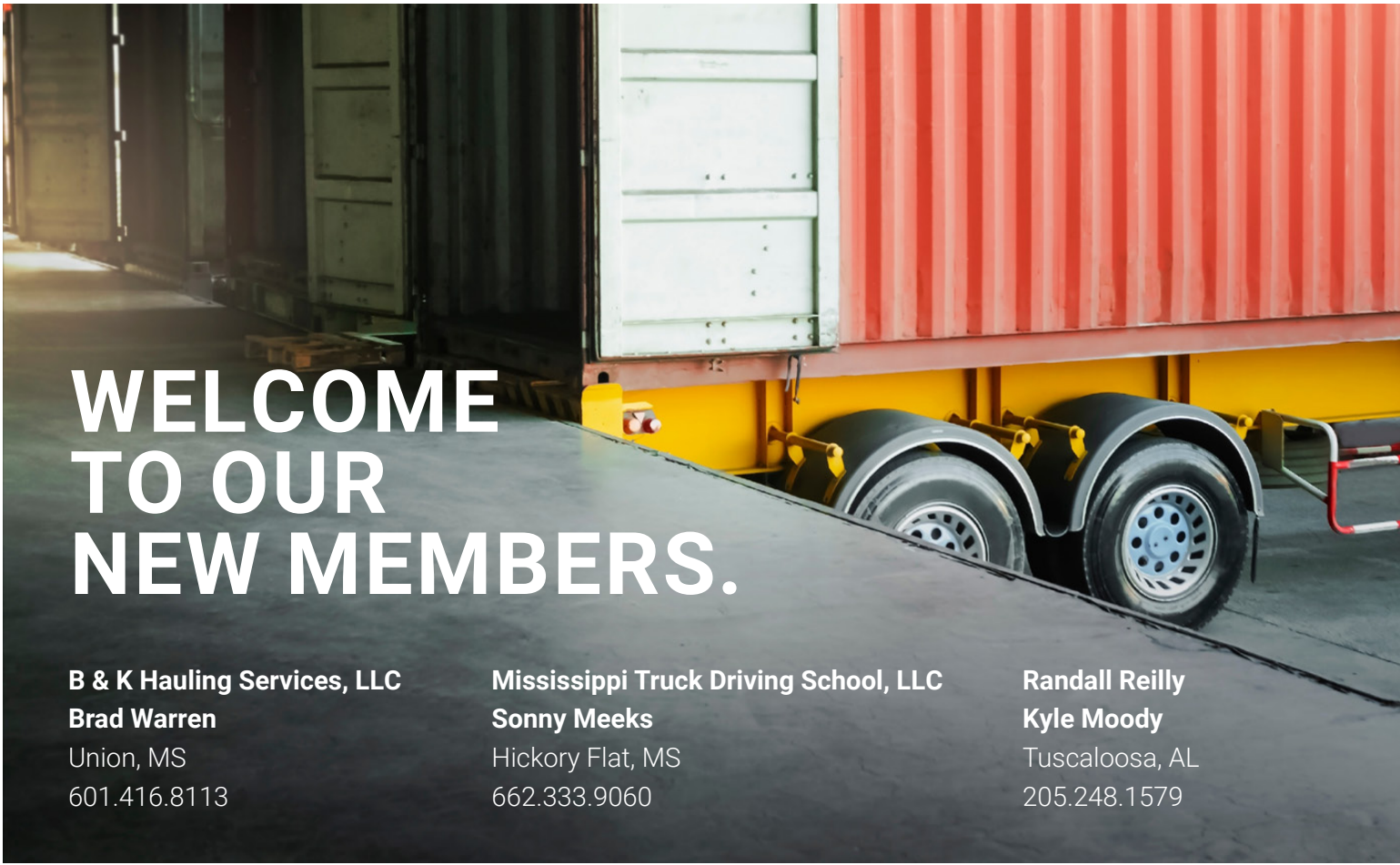
Our annual conventions have become famous for a perfect balance of education, inspiration, and fellowship all in a family-friendly environment. Your staff has been hard at work making sure the 2023 event is even better! Please be sure to sign up quickly if you have not already. We are already seeing a great deal of activity in registration and hotel reservations, not to mention sponsorships!

Keep your eyes open for notifications to nominate people for both LEAD MTA, as well as scholarship opportunities. Both programs have made a big difference for many associated with our industry. Speaking of scholarships, these are made possible by many who have made generous contributions to the MTA Foundation, providing over 400 scholarships to date. Interested in joining that prestigious list of donors? Please read the Foundation article in this issue.

As always, the staff at MTA truly appreciates the trust you place in us!



HAL MILLER
President, MTA



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS.

B & K Hauling Services, LLC
Brad Warren
Union, MS
601.416.8113

Mississippi Truck Driving School, LLC
Sonny Meeks
Hickory Flat, MS
662.333.9060

Randall Reilly
Kyle Moody
Tuscaloosa, AL
205.248.1579



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MTA ANNUAL CONVENTION
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\$1,000 PER SEMESTER

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MTAF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



Mississippi Trucking Association Foundation and Endowments

The Mississippi Trucking Association Foundation was founded over 30 years ago. It is a (501)(C)(3) charitable corporation designed to receive contributions, memorial gifts and property. Educational projects related to the trucking industry and scholarships to deserving students who are children of MTA member employees that are enrolled in scholastic endeavors is the primary objective. Since the inception of the Foundation, over 400 scholarships have been awarded to students with ties back to our industry.

Scholarships are offered through the MTAF and Endowments established by MTA members, as a way to give back to the industry through the scholarship program. An endowment takes \$100,000 to get started and it can be custom-fit with a bent towards either geographic or occupational classification as to who gets preference on the scholarship award. Current established Endowments are: Mike McLarty, John Fayard, H. Dean Cotten, G. Larry Kerr, R. Gene Holmes, Vernon G. & Nancy Sawyer, and W. Todd Bates.

Our Foundation is dedicated to furthering the education of industry employees and their children, as well as educating the public about our great industry. We also sponsor educational and informational activities focused on highway safety and other industry issues.

Century Club

Shortly after the Foundation was created, the prestigious Century Club was established to recognize those donors who made a one-time significant contribution to support the activities of the Foundation. Since then, over 89 MTA members have joined the Century Club.

If you would like to be a part of this group, the request is to make an \$8,000 contribution to the Foundation. It can either be a lump sum donation or spread out over a 4-year period. Those new members will be given special recognition at our Annual Convention in June.

**If you are interested, please contact
Hal or Mary John at 601-354-0616.**

**CLICK TO SEE THE FULL LIST OF
CENTURY CLUB MEMBERS**



PEACE OF MIND FOR THE LONG HAUL OR QUICK STOP

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**March 31-April 1
2023**

Trustmark Park

Glow in the Park - Friday
6 - 8:30 pm

Big Wheel Breakfast - Saturday
8:00 - 10:00 am

General Admission - Saturday
10 am - 4:00 pm

Purchase Tickets at
www.touchatruckjackson.com

For Exhibitor Opportunities

Contact Sallie - 601-540-6939

2023 MTA TRUCK DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIP

MAY 4-6, 2023 • GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI

To be eligible to compete in the Mississippi Truck Driving Championship the contestant must:

- (a) Be accident-free from MAY 4, 2022 to MAY 3, 2023.
- (b) Be a full-time truck driver. Spotters, hostlers, etc., are not eligible
- (c) Shall have driven and performed the duties of a professional truck driver for 12 months for your company prior to entry
- (d) Live in Mississippi or must operate out of a Mississippi terminal
- (e) A safety/company representative of a qualified road driver must be present at the TDC to be assigned duties as a worker during the two-day event. The company represented must have at least one worker for every five drivers entered from the same company

A company may enter as many drivers in EACH class of competition as they wish. Drivers may not drive in any class unless his driver's license shows that class's endorsement. *ATA Truck Driving Championships rules are followed.*

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS APRIL 7, 2023. Need More Information?

Contact Steve Boudreaux, CDS, CSIWCP at steveb@mstrucking.org or 601-354-0616.

CLICK HERE FOR ENTRY FORM
& SPONSORSHIPS



**MTA SAFETY
COUNCIL MEETINGS**

MTA Building
Jackson, MS



ATRI ISSUES CALL FOR MOTOR CARRIERS TO PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL OPERATIONAL COSTS DATA COLLECTION

ATRI has issued a request for motor carriers to participate in its annual *Operational Costs of Trucking* research. ATRI's 15th-annual Operational Costs of Trucking is one of the most used and most comprehensive benchmarking tools in the trucking industry. ATRI confidentially collects costs and operational data directly from trucking fleets and owner-operators, and its analysis reveals key trends for fleets of each sector, size, and region. Participating fleets will receive a customized report comparing cost metrics to fleets of a similar size and sector.

"ATRI's Ops Costs report is indispensable for bench-marking our operations; it confirms what we are doing well and notes where we can achieve additional cost savings," said James Burg, James Burg Trucking Company President and CEO. "And the customized peer-group assessment is invaluable to our benchmarking activities."

For-hire motor carriers are encouraged to provide operational cost data to ATRI by Friday, April 28. All confidential information is protected, and it is published only in anonymized, aggregate form.

[CLICK FOR VIDEO](#)

[CLICK FOR ATRI'S OPS COSTS DATA COLLECTION FORM](#)

ATRI'S 2023 BOTTLENECK LIST PROVIDES CRITICAL INSIGHT INTO INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT NEEDS THROUGHOUT AMERICA

ATRI recently released its 12th annual list highlighting the most congested bottlenecks for trucks in America. For the fifth year in a row, the intersection of I-95 and SR 4 in Fort Lee, New Jersey is once again the Number One freight bottleneck in the country.

The remaining Top 10 bottlenecks include:

- Chicago: I-294 at I-290/I-88
- Houston: I-45 at I-69/US 59
- Atlanta: I-285 at I-85 (North)
- Atlanta: I-20 at I-285 (West)
- Chicago: I-290 at I-90/I-94
- Los Angeles: SR 60 at SR 57
- Los Angeles: I-710 at I-105
- Nashville: I-24/I-40 at I-440 (East)
- San Bernardino, California: I-10 at I-15

ATRI's analysis, which utilized data from 2022, found traffic conditions continue to deteriorate from recent years as more Americans returned to work post-pandemic. Consequently, supply chain bottlenecks occurred throughout the country. Average rush hour truck speeds were 36.3 MPH, down more than six percent from the previous year. Among the top-10 locations, average rush hour truck speeds were less than 30 MPH.

[CLICK TO WATCH DATA ANIMATION](#)

[CLICK TO READ MORE](#)



MTA MEMBERS COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

January was Human Trafficking Awareness month and MTA and its members were very much in the spotlight during that time. MTA was represented in the media, as well as speaking at both the Secretary of State's Human Trafficking conference, and the Attorney General's most recent press event regarding Human Trafficking. We have partnered with both of these state officials, as well as the Department of Public Safety in the fight against this horrible crime. All of this stems from our original connection with **Truckers Against Trafficking**. Many of our members have joined TAT in this cause, and we challenge those of you who have not to consider it. Over 10,000 employees of Mississippi-based carriers have been trained. Wouldn't your company like to join the battle? It is very simple to do. The best way to initiate the Truckers Against Trafficking training, is through their Training Portal.

Our contact at TAT who can be a great help is Chris Moreno, Industry Training Program Specialist. She can be reached at cmoreno@truckersagainstrafficking.org or (719) 332-1136. **Won't you join the ranks of those in the fight?**

Listed are MTA members whose employees have participated in the TAT Training:



- Big M Transportation
- Ergon Trucking
- Evergreen Industries
- G.N.F., Inc.
- Gulf Relay
- Hol-Mac
- Holmes Company of Jackson
- J & B Services
- John Fayard Moving & Warehousing
- Jordan Carriers
- Jowin Express
- KLLM Transport Services
- MCH Transportation
- Miller Transporters, Inc.
- Mississippi Truck Driving Championship
- Mississippi Truck Driving School, LLC
- Southern Tire Mart
- Total Transportation of Mississippi, LLC
- Whitestone Transportation

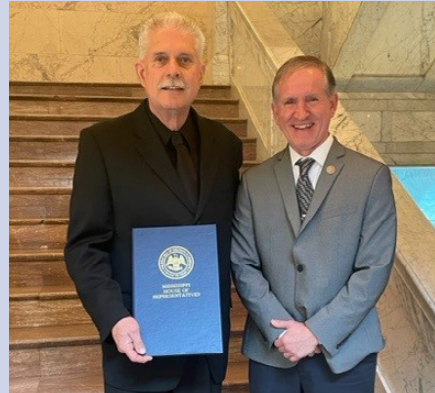
Truckers have long been considered the heroes of the highway whether it be responding to terrorist threats, natural disasters or pandemics, the men and women of the trucking industry can be counted on to step forward and help those in need. This makes for the perfect partnership with the battle against human trafficking. The Mississippi Trucking Association is proud to partner with Attorney General Fitch and her team to work against this terrible crime. Almost 10,000 truckers from Mississippi-based companies have been trained on how to spot human trafficking and what to do when they do. We are honored to Be the Solution.

HAL MILLER, PRESIDENT, MISSISSIPPI TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

[CLICK FOR THE TRAINING PORTAL](#)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MS TRUCK DRIVER OF THE YEAR 2022

DON NEHRING • FEDEX GROUND • OLIVE BRANCH, MS



LEFT PHOTO

(L-R): Hal Miller, MTA President, Don Nehring, Driver of the Year, and Steve Boudreaux, MTA Director of Safety

RIGHT PHOTO

(L-R): Don Nehring, Driver of the Year, and Rep. Steve Massengill, Vice Chairman of House Transportation Committee

MTA AWARD NOMINATIONS

FLEET SAFETY CONTEST

All MTA member are eligible to enter the MTA Fleet Safety and Driver of the Year Contests. There are two mileage categories LOCAL and INTERCITY (Mississippi miles only). They are as follows:

INTERCITY

500,000- 2 Million Miles
Over 2 Million Miles

LOCAL

0-1 Million Miles
Over 1 Million Miles

All awards will be presented following the annual TDC in Gulfport on May 6, 2023.

Definitions:

INTERCITY OPERATIONS

Operations beyond commercial zone or urban- suburban areas including peddle runs, short-haul operations, and intercity operations.

LOCAL OPERATIONS

Transportation wholly within a municipality or contiguous municipalities or wholly within a commercial zone as defined by the ICC or the regulatory agency having jurisdiction, whether or not performed incidental to intercity transportation of freight.

[CLICK FOR ENTRY FORM](#)

MS DRIVER OF THE YEAR

BASIS FOR NOMINATION

A driver may be nominated for a number of reasons – outstanding deeds, highway safety, or long record of safe and courteous driving. Give any information to consider on the person including community or church involvement, internal company driver awards, special events done, and any other accomplishments you would like to be considered in their selection.

Submission may include letters of recommendation, commendations or other awards the driver has received.

Winner of the Driver of the year receives a nice commemorative trophy, \$1000 award and recognition by the Mississippi Legislature

QUESTIONS?

Contact Steve Boudreaux, CDS at steveb@mstrucking.org or 601-354-0616.

[CLICK FOR ENTRY FORM](#)

LEAD MTA

EDUCATING FUTURE LEADERS



2022-2023 Lead MTA Class meets with Speaker of the House, Philip Gunn, at the Capitol

**2023-2024 UPCOMING
LEAD MTA APPLICATION
NOW AVAILABLE**

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Kevin Callahan
Kyle Dorsey
Benton Elliott
Tommy Foster
Chris Hill
Katherine Kenney
Jordan Musgrove

Jones Logistics, *Hattiesburg, MS*
Jackson Truck & Trailer, *Pearl MS*
Big M Transportation, *Blue Mountain, MS*
TAG Truck Center, *Tupelo, MS*
Palomar Insurance, *Hattiesburg, MS*
MidSouth Transportation, *Shannon, MS*
HUB International Gulf South, *Ridgeland, MS*

Thank you to our 2022 -2023 Sponsors.



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*-Jim Richards
President, KLLM Transport Services*

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**Financial support paid to MTA based on member participation

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J. J. Keller's *DOT Handbook: A Compliance Guide for Truck Drivers* offers:

- Easy-to-understand DOT compliance information specifically for new drivers
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Product Code: 44312
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Order must be placed with MTA for discount to apply.