

# TRUCKING TIDBITS

APRIL 30TH, 2011

MITCHELL BROS. TRUCK LINE, INC.

VOLUME 134

## CUSTOMERS AND DRIVERS ARE NUMBER 1

KIM NIMMO

KEITH PETRIE

MARK BENEDICT

The above have been selected as the Mitchell Bros. drivers' of the quarter.

**Kim Nimmo** is an Owner Operator in the I-5 Container Fleet. Kim has been with Mitchell Bros. since September 4th, 2007.

**Mark Benedict** is a Company Driver in the Local Cont. and the Flatbed Fleet. Mark has been with Mitchell Bros. since March 15th, 2000.

**Keith Petrie** is in our Local Container Fleet. Keith has been with Mitchell Bros. since February 26th, 2002.

Some of the qualifications of these drivers are no accidents or freight claims, all their logs or time sheets, as well as paperwork are in good order and turned in timely. They have not had any poor roadside inspections nor have they received any citations.

Some of the comments made by various people are that they do a great job, have excellent personalities and are very helpful. They are very safety conscious, great to work with, very cooperative and they are always on time.

As the recipient of the drivers of the quarter, you will be in the running for driver of the year.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

GREAT JOB!

Come by the office and pick up a special Mitchell Bros gift.



# HAPPY MITCHELL BROS. ANNIVERSARY!

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

DAVE BRAMAN  
ROBIN DENCER  
GREG DOTY  
RICHARD LAWRENCE  
HARBAKSIS "PAULY" SAR  
RON LOBDELL  
ROBIN SCHWEITZER

19 YEARS  
13 YEARS  
13 YEARS  
10 YEARS  
4 YEARS  
2 YEARS  
2 YEARS

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

MELVIN NIEMI  
KELLY HICKMAN  
GALE ASHBY  
THILO KLUTH  
DON TEAGUE  
BRUCE CUSHMAN  
CRYSTAL DEWEESE  
CHAD REW  
DENEANE BRIGGS  
CRYSTAL MORGAN  
MICHAEL BROOME

15 YEARS  
14 YEARS  
12 YEARS  
11 YEARS  
10 YEARS  
5 YEARS  
3 YEARS  
3 YEARS  
3 YEARS  
2 YEARS  
2 YEARS

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES



WAYNE LEEDY  
CURTIS ANDERSON  
DOUG CUPPS  
DON RASMUSSEN  
CARLOS AGUILAR  
MARK JUAYANG  
DIMITAR DIMOV  
CASEY LAFOLLETTE  
RICHARD CARLSON  
GREG STURM

21 YEARS  
9 YEARS  
7 YEARS  
4 YEARS  
4 YEARS  
4 YEARS  
3 YEARS  
3 YEARS  
1 YEAR  
1 YEAR



**HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY 4TH OF JULY**



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAY, JUNE, JULY

## MAY

CARLOS AGUILAR  
CASEY LAFOLLETTE  
LINDA NEWTON  
GORDON COHOON  
STEPHANIE FIVECOATS  
GREG STURM  
OLEG BORISHKEVICH  
CHAD REW  
SANDY ORNELAS  
KAREN UPSHAW  
ROBIN SCHWEITZER

## JUNE

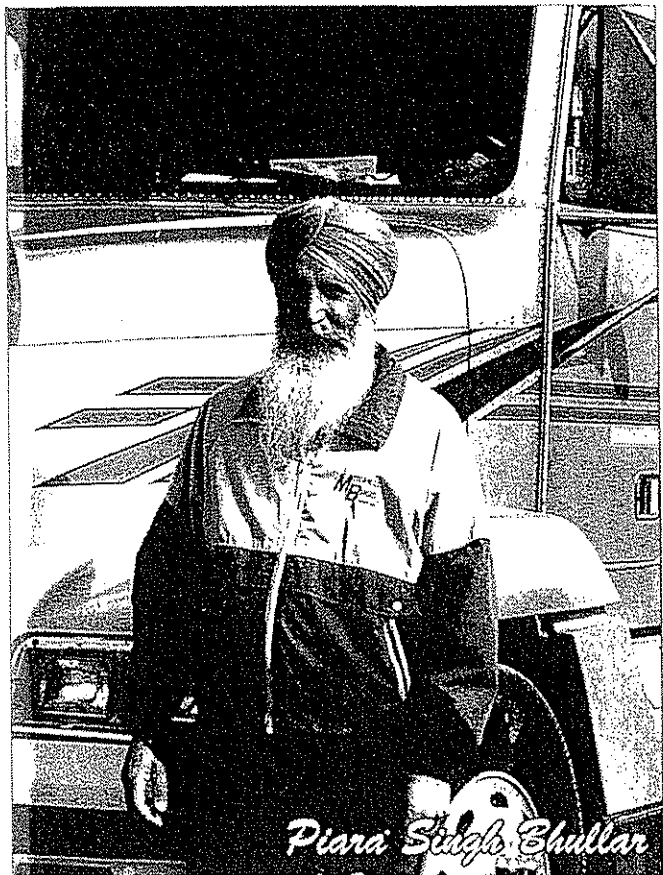
RANDY ALLAN  
MIKE RICE  
JAKE LUDLOW  
JILL TURNER  
MARK CORCORAN  
RICHARD CARLSON  
ED JACKSON

## JULY

KEITH PETRIE  
DON RASMUSSEN  
TOM HOWARD  
MYRNA PATTERSON  
SMOKEY BURGESS  
ROBIN RAY-JONES  
PAM KNIGHT  
MELVIN NIEMI  
SEAN THORNBURG  
DAVE GEHRING  
JOHN LANNING  
KELLY HICKMAN  
JACK KOBERSTEIN

## CONGRATULATIONS

# Desi **Trucker** of the issue



NAME	-	PIARA SINGH BHULLAR
VILLAGE	-	MUNDH (NAKODAR) JALANDHAR, PUNJAB. INDIA
EDUCATION	-	B.A.
MIGRATED	-	15 AUGUST - 1972
CLASS-1	-	FEB 1986
START		
DRIVING	-	FEB 1986
CURRENTLY		
DRIVING	-	MITCHELL BROS SINCE 1987
SERVICE IN	-	PUNJAB ROADWAYS INDIA
INDIA		DOABA ROADWAYS
SPORTS	-	HOCKEY (TRACK & FIELD)

If you want to send your profile for the Desi Trucker of next issue, please e-mail: [info@desitrucking.com](mailto:info@desitrucking.com) or Call: 1-877-598-3374

# ABOVE & BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY



Thilo Kluth

**Friends of Thilo Kluth Fund Contributors.** Thilo Kluth, unit #3156, broke his hip on December 27th, 2010. Thilo underwent surgery and has been unable to work for an extended period of time. Last report is that Thilo is still unable to put weight on his hip, and he is still on crutches. Thilo is undergoing physical therapy and doing home exercises as part of his recovery. Several people expressed an interest in helping Thilo which resulted in the establishment of a fund for Thilo. Special thanks to all those that have contributed to helping Thilo and his family. **Bill Hines, S & W Truck Wash**, even got into the act. He washed Thilo's tractor for free. If you would like to help, donations of cash, check (made out to Thilo) or gift cards can be brought to Michelle in the main office.

**Lou Brown**, Unit #1029, is a hero! Lou was traveling along side a car. The car was making such a loud noise from the engine compartment that Lou had to roll up his window. Then, a few moments later, the car engine blew, started to smoke, and burst into flames. The woman driver immediately pulled over to the side of the road. Lou pulled over too. Being a professional driver, Lou knew he had a fire extinguisher in the cab of his truck. Lou first determined the woman was alright, and then he started to battle the flames. After Lou got the fire out, the fire reignited again in a different part of the vehicle. Lou battled those flames too. Happy to report no one was hurt. Lou reports he apologized to the customer for being a little late with his delivery. Lou reported that he planned to pack some marshmallows in his lunch bag the next day. According to Lou, "you never know when you might be able to roast some marshmallows."

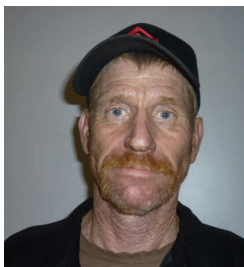
**Ronny Brodbeck**, Unit #1028, received the following written report from a motorist.

*I was following your tractor on Mill Plain Blvd, heading westbound. I was so impressed with how safe the driver was operating the vehicle. Early in the morning numerous vehicles travel at a high rate of speed and do not drive safe. It is reassuring knowing Mitchell Bros. cares about safety of the public no matter what time of morning.* - Charles Smithton, Resident of Vancouver, WA.

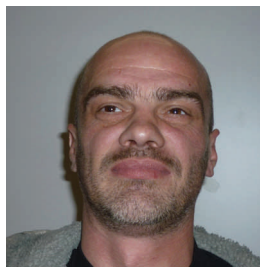
**Melvin Niemi**, Unit #7005, received high praise from his dispatcher, David Garrison. David received some last minute instructions that a container in our Vancouver yard had to be delivered on a Saturday to meet a cut off. After David called around 20 drivers, Melvin made it happen. Mitchell Bros. then issued Melvin a \$50 gift card for going *above and beyond the call of duty*.

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## WELCOME TO OUR NEW PORTLAND YARD CREW



John Kennedy



Andrew Perry



Jeff Steinman



Knute Schnitler

# COMPANY POLICY INFORMATION

## VANCOUVER YARD PARKING POLICY (INSIDE FENCED AREA)

### REMINDER:

We are sorry for the inconvenience but no private passenger vehicles are allowed inside our fenced area.

This policy is in place to satisfy both government and customer requirements.

Thanks for your cooperation.



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## SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS WHEN HAULING DECK-MOUNTED

### GENERATOR FOR REEFER CONTAINER

- Make sure hard-wood dunnage or a friction mat is placed between the deck and the generator. It is unsafe to load steel on steel. Some chassis may have pre-mounted dunnage or even friction mats.
- Most deck-mounted generators will require the driver to secure the generator using two nylon straps. Chassis are equipped with wenchers for this purpose.
- Make sure nylon straps are positioned to prevent the strap from breaking due to friction and/or vibration made by normal highway movements. If necessary use edge protectors, carpet remnant, or even cardboard to eliminate a sharp “cutting” edge.
- Make sure any excess electrical chord is secure.

**DO NOT DO THIS! Steel on steel is not good. Less friction means the product may slide, and/or put increased pressure on straps.**



## **SPECIAL MESSAGE TO OUR VALUED OWNER-OPERATORS: DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN BE ASSESSED A \$35 PENALTY FOR EACH BILL OF LADING THAT IS NOT RECEIVED BY MITCHELL BROS. IN A TIMELY MANNER?**

It has come to our attention that some of our owner-operators are not turning in their paperwork in a timely manner. Our Contractor Lease and Operating agreement states in part "All bills will be either mailed to MBTL's office directly after delivery or hand delivered. A penalty of \$35.00 will be imposed per bill of lading if bills are not received in a timely manner" (item 10, page 7).

Mitchell Bros. does not want to impose this penalty, but if an owner-operator continues to turn in paperwork late or holds onto several trips before turning in the paperwork, then Mitchell Bros. will have no choice but to exercise this clause of the contract.

This policy is in place for a reason. When someone fails to turn in their trip paperwork in a timely manner it prevents us from billing our customer right away, it holds up payment, and it puts billing and payroll in a bind to get all the work done at the last minute.

If you are not doing so already, please turn in your paperwork the same day you receive a signed bill of lading (i.e. proof of delivery). We thank you for your cooperation.

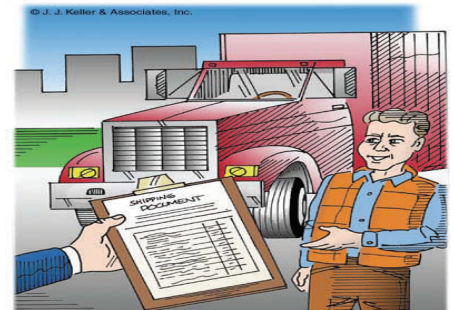
## **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE UPDATED PROOF OF INSURANCE**



Mitchell Bros. recently renewed our insurance policy with Great West Casualty. If you have not done so already, please stop by Bill's office to get an updated insurance certificate for your licensing book. Our new policy went into effect April 1st, 2011.

## **ROADCHECK 2011 IS COMING JUNE 7-9!**

During a 72-hour period in the 2nd week of June, thousands of inspectors will be examining over 70,000 vehicles. What they find (or don't find) can affect your CSA (Compliance Safety Accountability) score. Please make sure your equipment and paperwork (e.g. driver daily logs) is in order.



# WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF A DIESEL SPILL?

- Stop in safe location & turn off engine as soon as possible so you limit the spill area.
  - \_ Do not stop in a sensitive area such as near a storm water drain or water way.
  - \_ If possible try to park on cement instead of on asphalt or soil.
  - \_ If it is raining outside, then ,if possible, try to park under an overhead structure (overpass, garage, etc.)
- Stop product flow (if possible).
  - \_ Shut off fuel tank cross over valves.
  - \_ Try to plug hole in fuel tank using a rag to stop or slow the flow of the leak.
  - \_ Use assistance from nearby business, neighbor, or motorist that may have spill containment resources (e.g. kitty litter, storm drain cover, etc.)
  - \_ If available use a container of some kind to catch the fuel. Examples of containers can be a garbage pail, garbage can lid covers, a kid's small inflatable pool, etc.
  - \_ If no container is available then try to absorb the spill using kitty litter, rags, cardboard, wood chips, etc.
- Create a berm/wall on the ground in a circle surrounding your fuel tanks or tractor so the fuel stays in a contained area. You can use kitty litter, absorbent snakes/pads, gravel, dirt, wood chips, etc.
- If necessary, create a similar berm/wall around any nearby storm water drain to prevent diesel fuel from going down the drain. Try not to let anything go down storm drain except storm water.
- If it is a major spill (more than 50 gallons and/or fuel is leaking into a storm drain or water way) then contact the following:
  - Portland-Vancouver Area
    - \_ Jammie's Environmental, Inc. 360-577-5691 or
    - \_ Spencer Environmental at 503-655-0896
  - Outside Portland-Vancouver Area
    - \_ Foss Environmental at 800-337-7455 or
    - \_ Chemtrec 800-424-9300
  - Other
    - Washington Department of Ecology 360-407-6300
    - Oregon Department of Ecology 800-452-0311
- Contact the property owner.
- Contact your dispatcher at Mitchell Bros. If after hours contact the Director of Safety.
- Secure the affected area. Prevent unauthorized personnel from entering the spill area.
  - \_ Make sure no smoking or electrical equipment is near the spill area.
- Continue clean up and containment efforts until spill contractor arrives.
- Assist spill contractor as needed.

Cut this section out and keep in cab of tractor.



## MESSAGES FROM OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS

### BNSF RAILWAY PORTLAND SAFETY RULES OF THE QUARTER

Speed limit is 20 mph on ramp and 5 mph around the building and gate. Stop at all stop signs including stenciled stop signs. Must stop for all rail crossings. Check J1 slip before departing to ensure both chassis/trailer and container numbers are correct. If they are not, contact gate inspector or coordinator located at the information window.

### K LINE AMERICA WANTS TO INFORM YOU ABOUT CHASSIS DOT NUMBERS

New federal regulations require chassis to be marked with the US DOT number of the equipment provider. This requirement can be made in several ways: Option #1) the chassis is to be physically labeled with the providers US DOT number; Option #2) the US DOT number must be listed on documents kept in the tractor; Option #3) the US DOT number must be in a weather proof container on the chassis, or Option #4) the equipment provider can use an electronic option whereby the chassis is registered on an internet database.

K Line America uses the electronic option. Some law enforcement personnel are not aware of the electronic option and are issuing citations. Please inform the law enforcement officer that the chassis is listed on [www.gierregistry.com](http://www.gierregistry.com) and/or [www.chassis.com](http://www.chassis.com) and that this listing satisfies the regulations. In addition, the GIER database can also be verified by calling toll free 877-511-4437.

### GREAT WESTERN MALTING COMPANY IN VANCOUVER DOES NOT WANT YOU TO DROP CONTAINERS TOO CLOSE TO THEIR RAILROAD TRACK.

A container was recently parked near the railroad tracks. A Mitchell Bros. driver representative opened the container doors to prepare the container for the loading of malt. When the container door was in the opened position a rail car traveled on the nearby track. The train hit and damaged the door of the container. Fortunately, there was no one in the container at the time of impact. As a result of the incident, please make sure the equipment is parked far enough away from rail tracks.