

# LEARNING *Curve*

Volume 9, No. 2  
Summer 2008

NETWORKING THE FINEST EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES IN THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY

## -----Featured School-----Pima Community College-----

Students at Pima Community College (PCC) receive a maximum of personal attention throughout their training in PCC's Truck Driver-Training Program (TDTP). This is evidenced by the program's 93% completion rate and 100% job-placement rate.

The PCC TDTP, located in Tucson, Ariz., trains up to 150 drivers a year, with flexible day, evening, and weekend scheduling options to accommodate working students. Three program certificates are offered:

- **Class A Vehicle Driver, 8-Credit Hours** – 80 hours in the classroom and 80 hours of range/road;
- **Commercial Truck Driver, 16-Credit Hours** – 80 hours in the classroom, 120 hours of range/road and 240 hours (160 hours behind the wheel) of externship; and
- **Professional Truck Driver, 23-Credit Hours** – 200 hours in the classroom, 160 hours of range/road and 240 hours (160 hours behind the wheel) of externship.

TDTP also offers additional support training: Truck Driver Training with ESL Support Level 1 and Level II; Truck Driver Training Refresher; Hazardous Awareness & Collision Avoidance for Commercial Driver's License Drivers; and, Practical Skills Examination (third party testing). Upon successful completion of ESL Support Level I or Level II,



*Robert Spearman, a Pima Community College truck driving student, inspects the trailer of a big rig. In the background are instructor Doug Quinn and fellow students Lynda Davis and Fidel Alvarez. (Photo courtesy of "Arizona Daily Star".)*

students transition into the Class A Vehicle Driver certificate program.

PCC TDTP staff is committed to promoting individual uniqueness, equal access, positive learning experiences, and opportunities for success. Students are assisted in accessing financial aid assistance, disabled student services, and referrals to community-based agencies, collaborative ongoing student evaluations, and monitoring that students complete training and obtain employment.

The staff closely monitors student retention with the help of a tracking system that has been developed to monitor program performance outcomes. Completion and job-placement statistics are also tracked. A 13-week and 6-month follow-up is conducted to monitor retention.

Job-placement successes are attributed to the aforementioned high degree of personal attention. This includes providing students with pre-hire arrangements with trucking companies, comprehensive student support services, individualized competency-based instruction, hands-on

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**Check your  
Region —  
Contact your  
Region  
Coordinator.**

### NAPFTDS FALL REGION CONFERENCES

Offering high-quality, workshops/seminars on national and regional issues for truck driving instructors and support staff. Free of charge to attendees. Allow about 1½ days per conference.

**Check your Region - Contact your Region Coordinator**

#### Region #1, 2

Oct. 2-3 Thurs., Fri.

**Rick Dalton**, Coordinator

Salt Lake City Community College

Salt Lake City, UT

Ph. 801-957-5805

#### Region #3

Oct. 30-31 Thurs., Fri.

**Len Marsh**, Coordinator

Des Moines Area Community College

Des Moines, IA

Ph. 515-262-1680

#### Region #4

Oct. 2-3 Thurs., Fri.

**David Young**, Coordinator

Wichita Area Technical College

Wichita, KS

Ph. 316-677-1200

#### Region #5

Sept. 25-26 Thurs., Fri.

**Eddie Mullins**, Coordinator

Southern State Community College

Wilmington, OH

Ph. 937-382-6645

#### Region #6

Nov. 20-21 Thurs., Fri.

**Richard Tucker**, Coordinator

Moultrie Technical college

Tifton, GA

Ph. 229-391-2644

#### Region #7

TBA

**Vendors are encouraged to exhibit products or services at Region Conferences. Cost to exhibit is \$150 at each Region.**

### National Convention

April 1-3, 2009

— Radisson Hotel Opryland —

**Nashville, Tennessee**

## -----In This Issue-----

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- ♦ **2008 Convention**
- ♦ **President's Message**
- ♦ **Regulatory Update**

training, life skills training, individual progress reports, an on-site Third Party Testing Program for the Commercial Driver's License Examination, and job-placement assistance.

The screening process for entrance into the PCC TDTP programs also plays an important role. Students are advised of admission requirements, as well as expectations while in training. The TDTP does all this with one full-time instructor, three to nine part-time instructors (depending on the level of operation), a program coordinator, and two student service specialists.

The federal government recently awarded a \$2 million logistics support grant for training in truck driving, warehouse work, and logistics training in Southern Arizona, including the border counties of Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz,

and Yuma. The partnership will rely heavily on existing programs, such as the Pima Community College's Truck Driver Training Program.

For more information, contact Ramona Garcia, Pima Community College, 6680 South Country Club Road, Tucson, AZ 85709, (520) 206-2744, fax (520) 206-6478, [rlgarcia@pima.edu](mailto:rlgarcia@pima.edu), [www.pima.edu](http://www.pima.edu)

## Welcome New Members!

### New Full Memberships:

**Bradford – Union Area Career  
Technical Center,**

Starke, FL

**Kishwaukee College,**  
Malta, IL

**Heartland Community College,**  
Normal, IL

**Metropolitan Community College,**  
Omaha, NE

**Trinidad State Junior College,**  
Trinidad, CO

**West Georgia Technical College,**  
LaGrange, GA

**Cuyahoga Community College,**  
Cleveland, OH

### Returning Full Memberships:

**Grays Harbor College,**  
Aberdeen, WA

**Southwest Kansas Technical School,**  
Liberal, KS

**Walla Walla Community College,**  
Walla Walla, WA

### Associate Memberships:

**Paschal Truck Lines, Inc.,**  
Murray, KY

**FedReady, LLC,**  
Goodyear, AZ

**IdleAire,**  
Knoxville, TN

**Lanmarx Graphix,**  
Kansas City, MO

**Women in Trucking,**  
Plover, WI

### NAPFTDS MEMBERSHIP PRE-APPLICATION

Organization/Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ FULL MEMBERSHIP (\$175): Any publicly funded school or representative employee of that school engaged directly in providing truck driver training.

☐ ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP (\$350): Any industry or representative employee of that industry which indirectly supports public truck driving schools, limited to agencies such as trucking companies, insurance companies, publishers, and equipment manufacturers interested in the welfare of publicly funded truck driving schools.

☐ AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP (\$250): Limited to administrators or staff at a publicly funded school interested in the trucking industry or administrators in schools that contract with proprietary organizations to provide truck driver training.

THE NEXT STEP: Application for membership shall be made on an application form as may be required by the Board of Directors. A majority vote of the Board of Directors is necessary for the acceptance of an application for membership. All applicants who have been accepted into the membership of the Association must submit a fully completed and signed application form that, by doing, signifies their adherence of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of said Association. Membership in the applicable class shall be complete upon application of the Association, approval of the Board, and payment of the appropriate dues.

Return form to:

Tina Frindt, Treasurer, NAPFTDS  
1900 Corporate Center Drive East, Suite 100  
Tobyhanna, PA 18466  
Fax: 570-839-3534

Questions about membership may be directed to:  
Robert McClanahan, Executive Director, NAPFTDS  
Phone: 918-770-6446

### Important notice to those who are not yet members of NAPFTDS

If you are not a member of the Association, and you would like to continue receiving the *Learning Curve* and other benefits of membership, please complete the MEMBERSHIP PRE-APPLICATION FORM in this newsletter and return with your payment of appropriate dues. While we have generous supporters, member dues are the backbone of our Association.

## Convention 2008



▲ John Stephens,  
Bentley Wallace.



▲ Robert  
McClanahan,  
Stephanie  
Stasolla.



▲ Rick  
Dalton,  
Mike  
Strick.



▲ John  
Esparza.



▲ Van O'Neal, Ray Haight, Ray  
Kuntz, Robert McClanahan.



▲ Bill Fath,  
Ken Wehmas.



▲ Ray Kuntz.



▲ Vincent Picarelli,  
Bentley Wallace.



▲ Joanne Ivory,  
Don Hess.



▲ Rob Behnke, Tina  
Frindt and Martin  
Garsee working the  
registration table.



▲ Rob Behnke.



▲ Ray Kuntz,  
Maury Tiehn.



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## Special Thanks to Our Convention Sponsors for their Financial Support!

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## Convention 2008

*With appreciation to all those who took photos!*



◀State Captains. Front Row: Van O'Neal, Rick Dalton, Bentley Wallace, Rob Behnke, Tina Frindt, Laura Kingsland, Mary Beth McCollum, Robert McClanahan, Len Marsh. Back Row: Maury Tiehn, Phil Steinkamp, Lee Derrickson, Robert Paris, Roy Williams, Eddie Mullins, Mike Schlachter, Bill Fath, Sidney Allen, Bob Weining.



▲Ellen Voie.



▲Roy Williams, Stephanie Stasolla.



▲Ken Wehmas, Bette Brown, Margaret Spivey.



▲Martin Garsee, Michael O'Connell.



▲Rich Clemente.



▲Mark Huss, John Mueller.



▲Maury Tiehn, Van O'Neal, John Stephens



▲Rich Clemente presentation.



▲Robert McClanahan, Rich Clemente.



▲From left: Rob Swofford and Robert Swint, ATA & Associates; Ray Kuntz, John Esparza, and Van O'Neal.



◀Rob Benke, Roy Williams.



▲Rob Behnke, Matt Eisert, Mark Huss.



▲Roy Williams, Tina Frindt.



◀General session.



▲Kent Price, Kreigh Spahr.



◀Craig Follins, Kreigh Spahr.



▲Ken Smith, Michael O'Connell, Dave Terry, Martin Garsee.



▲Rick Dalton, Mike White, Jennifer Stall.



▲Van O'Neal, Ray Haight, Robert McClanahan.



◀Bill Fath, Robert McClanahan, Rich Clemente.



▲Rick Dalton, Dave Terry.



▲Eddie Mullins, Tina Frindt, Kreigh Spahr.



◀Timothy Evans.

## President's Message Dave Terry



Greetings. We survived another National Convention, held in beautiful, but humid Houston April 2-4. There were numerous informative speakers, and we also had the opportunity to discuss the Entry Level training requirements from the FMCSA Notice of Proposed Rule Making. This rule is very sensitive, but you are going to have the opportunity to voice your concerns to Association members. You may have already received information about it. Please look it over and return to Crissie Moffet at (316) 677-1200 or [cmoffet@watc.edu](mailto:cmoffet@watc.edu). (See also Robert McClanahan's article below.)

There is also a new Notice of Proposed Rule Making from the DOT and FMCSA on Commercial Drivers License Testing Commercial Learner's Permit. Kindly review and respond to this as well. **June 9, 2008** is the date all replies have to be made. Again, this is a critical issue. We encourage all members to get involved and make a difference.

Special thanks to all of our sponsors, vendors, and Associate members. Without their support, we would have a difficult time running our Association. We are already gearing up for our National Convention in Nashville in 2009. Our regional meetings are well underway for this fall as well. (Again, see elsewhere in this newsletter.)

It's also necessary to give a very special THANKS to convention committee members - Phil Steinkamp, Martin Garsee, Roy Williams, Rob Behnke, and Crissie Moffet - for doing a great job in pulling together this big event.

Finally, a warm welcome goes out to new board members **Stephanie Stasolla, John Frey, Vincent Picarelli**, and returning past board member **Martin Garsee**. We look forward to working with you all in the near future.

Keep the wheels between the lines, and may you all be successful in your endeavors as we teach and train.

**Have a wonderful summer!**

## FMCSA Reviewing Board Response

*By Robert McClanahan,  
Executive Director*

At the time of this writing, the Board response to the NPRM on entry-level training has been filed and is under review by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

To view this response and other comments you may visit their website at [www.regulation.gov/search/index.jsp](http://www.regulation.gov/search/index.jsp). In the box under Comments and Submissions, enter FMCSA-2007-27748. This will take you to all comments entered to date. This proposed regulation is being reviewed by FMCSA. We must wait to see what the next proposed ruling will be on this subject.

Another proposed regulation that will affect training schools is the Commercial Driver's License Testing and Commercial Learner's Permit Standards. This Notice of Proposed Rule Making was published in the *Federal Register* on April 9, 2008. Docket number is FMCSA-2007-27659.

## RULES & RIGs

The comment period for the proposal is open until June 9, 2008. This proposed ruling addresses CDL testing procedures and CDL Learners' Permits regulations for all states. You may view this proposal at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) - enter the docket number. I ask that everyone review this regulation, and I encourage you to send in your comments if you have not already done so.

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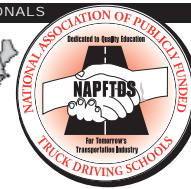
**LEARNING  
Curve**

Please consider their quality products and services. For information on advertising, contact **Robert McClanahan**, call 918-770-6446

**June 20** is the deadline for the next issue of *Learning Curve*. Questions about article submissions should be directed to Robert McClanahan, 918-770-6446

## LEARNING Curve

NEWSLETTER FOR PROFESSIONALS



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