



August 2008 Issue

Calendar

Board Meeting Dates:

Thursday, Aug. 21st - Ferndale
Saturday, Dec. 13th - Wenatchee

Other Events:

2008 Christmas Celebration
December 12th & 13th
Coast Hotel - Wenatchee

Expo Sponsors & Vendors To Date

AAA
Allison Transmission
Bell-Anderson Agency Inc
Choice Insurance
Fleet Sales West
Idaho Wrecker Sales
In the Ditch Towing Products
Nationwide Insurance/
Capital Financial Group
Nelson Truck Equipment
Northwest Equipment
Sales & Service, Inc.
Sprint/Intouch Wireless
Tacoma Wrecker Sales
Top Dog Dispatch
Tow Administrator
United States Auto Club,
Motoring Division, Inc
Western Tire Chain
WorldClass Insurance Services
WSP
WSDOT

The Dispatch

An Official Publication of:

TOWING & RECOVERY
ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON

Countdown to the 2008 Northwest Tow Expo: **9 days!**

Dear Members, Vendors & Friends of the Tow Industry,

The 2008 Tow Expo is approaching fast.
It would be so great if every member of TRAW could attend.
What a show of force!

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone and enjoying the thought of seeing what the vendors have to offer and the turn out of all the tow companies that can attend. I'm especially looking forward to the dessert auction (chocolate is my favorite...hint, hint.)

Hope to see you all there.
Look me up and say hello.
President Kurt

Attention All Bakers:

We need your "dough"
If you bake it; They'll buy it!!!

Kelly Starbuck, the Dessert Auction Chair is looking for your speciality which will be selected by the table with the highest bid.
Pies, Cakes, Cookies, Cobblers, Dessert Bars anything that will entice a table's Sweet Tooth.

We're looking for your lip smacking, absolutely luscious and totally tantalizing dessert that you'd be willing to donate for our second annual dessert auction.

If you're able to participate,
please contact Kelly at K9Wrinkles@aol.com or 206.236.1800.

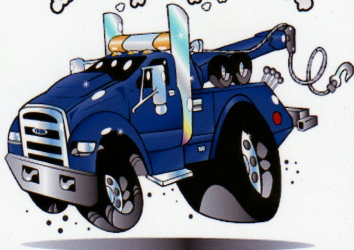
Thanks to:

Billy & Stacie Stansfield (Crossroad's Towing) who are once again organizing both the Silent & Live Auction. To make their jobs easier, please make sure your donation paperwork gets submitted to the office ASAP. You can find a donation form at www.towingandrecovery.org.



Presented By

TRAW



August 22nd & 23rd

The Silver Reef
Casino & Spa

Ferndale, WA - I5 Exit 260

866-383-0777 Ext. 254

reservations@silverreefcasino.com

TOWING & RECOVERY
ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON

509.782.7170 - fax 509.782.1203

www.towingandrecovery.org

Tow Expo Schedule of Events

Thursday, August 21

4:00 p.m.—7:00p.m. TRAW Board Meeting
Legacy Room, members welcome

Friday, August 22

8:00 a.m. -Noon Exhibitor Setup
12:00 Noon - Trade Show Opens
Official Welcome - Kurt Gillard, TRAW President
BBQ
"I Told My BOSS Where to Go" Competition (*during BBQ*)
Dusk Tow Truck Light Show
Friday Night Lights (truck light show -bring your trucks and join in the fun)

Saturday, August 23

8:00 a.m. TRAW Education Committee Meeting, Legacy Room
10:00 a.m. Trade Show Opens
11:00 a.m. Towels Down for Beauty Contest
Equipment Demonstrations
Kid' Activities sponsored by AAA
WSP Demonstrations
TRAW Education Demo
11:30 a.m. Complimentary Lunch- South of the Border Fajita bar
Demonstrations
Lock Out Competition
4:00 p.m. Trade Show Closes
6:00 p.m. KIDS NIGHT OUT,
Sponsored by District #7
6:30 p.m. Reception and Silent Auction
Banquet
Live Auction
Awards

Sunday, August 24

Exhibit Takedown



TRAW Education

It has been a busy summer for the education committee.

We had a 3-day LD school in Spokane in June, with 8 students, hosted by Rouse's Towing, with 100% passing rate. That class was instructed by Steve Cardinale.

A one-day LD tow school in July with 10 students, hosted by Columbia Towing.

A one-day recovery school in August hosted by Nisqually Towing.

None of these could have been accomplished without the hundreds of volunteer hours of our members. We invite you do join your education committee, ... it is arguably one of the most important things that we do as an association.

We still have 2 remaining schools coming up this fall. Make sure you check the web-site www.towingandrecovery.org or the *Dispatch* for details.

See us at the EXPO, ... we will have a booth or join us for the committee meeting Saturday morning at 0800 to plan for next year. Feel free to contact us at any time, ... Rich Steele @ rich.steele@roadonewest.com (206-364-2000) or Bill Sullivan @ libertytowing@sprynet.com (253-565-1300).

Get a small business boost at Biz Fair 2008

Find small business help in an easy atmosphere at the 12th Annual Washington Small Business Fair. This free event offers valuable information and counseling from business experts and staff from federal and state government agencies. **“Biz Fair 2008” is scheduled Saturday, September 6, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Renton Technical College, 3000 NE 4th Street, in Renton.**

Get information and training in one day and one place from local business experts, trade organizations and government agencies about how to create or expand a small business and how to navigate taxes and other government requirements. More than 40 seminars will be taught by business professionals on a wide variety of topics, including web site design, business law, financing, marketing, and business planning.

Biz Fair is free, with plenty of free parking and no advance registration. You can stay for the entire event or come for part of the day. Seminar topics and driving directions can be found at www.bizfair.org.

Governmental Agency Update

On July 16th, Paul Bressi & Randy Houston meet with representatives from the Washington State Patrol, Washington State Parks, Department of Natural Resources and Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife to discuss how to handle impounds by each agency. In the past these agencies have piggybacked on the WSP dispatch system. The results of this meeting are that the State Parks will continue to use the WSP dispatch system. DNR and WDFW in the future will team up to do their own dispatching for impounds. DNR and WDFW will issue their own contract, mirroring the WSP Contract in many ways. DNR is aware that many of their impound vehicles are of no value and will be paying cost of removal.

Updated 08 Scholarship Press Release

The Women of the Towing and Recovery Association Scholarship Committee recently awarded several scholarships to students across the United States. The Committee reviewed several applications and made determinations based on grade point average, community service, scholastic achievements, and personal statements. In total, \$7,000 in scholarships will be distributed (interest and dividends without using principle). Individuals, who did not receive a scholarship this year, are encouraged to continue to apply in the following years. Historically, individuals that receive scholarship awards and continue to apply throughout their education are often granted larger (as funding allows) scholarships in subsequent years. For individuals that are interested in applying in 2009, look for the WTRAA Scholarship Application to run in early spring in the Towing & Recovery News publication. The Scholarship Committee is made up of Belinda Harris, Millie Sterns, Angela Roper and Stacey Tucker. The principle balance of the scholarship fund is \$215,000.00. **The Scholarship Committee welcomes donations at any time; individuals who are interested in making a donation to the WTRAA Foundation may do so by contacting WTRAA Scholarship Chairperson, Stacey Tucker at 360-479-7500 or send donations to 130 Tweed Lane, Ste 2, Bremerton, WA 98312.**



The towing industry mourns the loss of two of their own: Mark and Brian Storer

Mark was 51 years old. He leaves behind his wife Lynette of 31 years; two children Teresa and Jared; three grandchildren Sam, Liam and Toby; parents Jack and Connie and three brothers Robin, John and Ron. Mark founded and ran a successful family business, Airport & Burien Towing, loved flying his float plane and adored his three grandkids. His memorial was held at Church by the Side of the Road in Tukwila, WA on July 31st 2008 at 11:00am. Donations can be made to the Storer Family Memorial Fund at Sterling Savings Bank to benefit his two young grandchildren. Further details are available at AirportTow.com. Please sign the guest book at

www.bonneywatson.com.

Brian was 24 years old. He leaves behind a wife Christy; two young sons Sam age 2 and Toby age 1; mother Lynette; Sister Teresa; and Brother Jared. Brian and Christy would have celebrated their third wedding anniversary on August 7th 2008. Brian loved his wife and kids. He drove a tow truck for the Storer family business, Airport & Burien Towing and left everyone laughing in his wake. His memorial was held at Church by the Side of the Road in Tukwila, WA on Thursday July 31, 2008 at 11:00am. Donations can be directed to the Storer Family Memorial fund at Sterling Savings Bank to benefit Brian's two young boys. Further details are available at AirportTow.com. Please sign the guest book at www.bonneywatson.com.





CONTRACTED STAFF:

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

501 Consultants, Inc.
Vicky Scharlau, Administrator
Debbie Sands, Business Manager
Eileen Wilkinson, Admin. Assistant
Andrea Baker, Communications
Shawna Smith, Admin. Assistant

Legislative Issues
Stu Halsan, Attorney

Technical Issue Manager
Ken Nikko

ASSOCIATION OFFICE:

203 Mission Avenue, Suite 107
Cashmere, WA 98815
Phone: 509.782.7170
FAX: 509.782.1203

2008 BOARD & OFFICERS

President

Kurt Gillard, George Washington Towing
(509) 785-5984

Vice President

Doug Faber, Mount Vernon Towing
(360) 336-3535

Treasurer/Secretary

Jackie Currie, Columbia Towing
(206) 722-2535

Member At Large

Stacey Tucker, Chico Towing
(360) 479-7500

Past President

Rolfe Johnson, Jim's Northgate Towing
(206) 364-1500

District 1 Chair

Tom Lomis, Bill's Towing
(253) 272-9393

District 2 Chair

Mike Bartolotti, Lincoln Towing
(206) 364-2000

District 3 Chair

Ken Schmidt, Ken's Auto Rescue
(509) 582-9414

District 4 Chair

Bettie Simmons, AA Auto Salvage Inc.
(509) 455-4990

District 5 Chair

Mike DeSpain, Carl's Towing Service
(360) 423-4460

District 6 Chair

Theresa Gault, Ron's Towing
(509) 662-3113

District 7 Chair

Dan Johnson, Johnson's Towing
(360) 733-4232

District 8 Chair

Ron Madler, Kitsap Towing
(360) 297-8600

We're On the Web!!!

Here are some of the things you will find at:

www.towingandrecovery.org

- Membership - alphabetically & by location
- Current Events
- Education Schools & link to registration forms
- Legislative Updates
- TowPac
- Retro
- District Meetings
- Link to RTTO Manual
- Supplier Partners & Link
- Coming Soon - Link to Dispatch Publication
- Links to Government Agencies i.e.) WSP, WSDOT, DOL, etc.

