



Towing & Recovery Professionals of Colorado

T.R.P.C. Bulletin

Winter Safety for Colorado Towers

Winter Meeting Schedule

- No Meetings in December
- Regular Board Meeting
January 08, 2008
7pm @ Mickey's
- Tow Show Meeting
January 29, 2008
7pm @ Mickey's
- Regular Board Meeting
February 5, 2008
7pm @ Mickey's
- Regular Board Meeting
March 4, 2008
7pm @ Mickey's
- All Meetings at Mickey's
Steakhouse 70th & Broadway. Dinner is at 6:30p
and meetings start at 7pm

5 Safety tips from Eddie Havener:

1. Your tow truck should be as mechanically sound as possible at all times. It does no one any good for your tow truck to need to be towed in for repairs.
2. Clean all lights so that you can see and be seen. LED lights do not produce the heat that an incandescent light will and have a tendency to have snow build up on them.
3. Check your trucks tire chains. Make sure that they are in good repair and are the proper size for the tires on that tow truck. When you are

checking them, you might practice installing them a time or two when it is dry rather than in the middle of a storm.

By the way, it is required by Colorado State Law that all commercial vehicles, including tow trucks, which are operating between the Morrison exit and Vail on I-70, carry tire chains on their truck from the months of September to May. The law also requires that you put chains on at least 4 of your drive tires. I recommend 3 rail tire chains as they have superior traction over single tire chains.

4. Have an extra change of

clothes with you so if one set gets wet you can change into the dry ones. Be ready for any weather, it can change in a very short time even when driving from one area to another.

5. Do not jump out or off of your truck. It can be dangerous if you jump and land on a patch of ice and your feet slip out from under you. Always have 3 points of contact with your truck [2 hand and 1 foot or 1 hand and 2 feet] when getting out or off of your truck.

Thank you Eddie for submitting this article. If you would like to submit an article, contact Connie at 303-789-2593

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Cozy Bob's Corner

What **does** this association do for our industry? PUC, Legislation, Widow & Orphans Fund... The better question: What **can** this association do for our industry?

Looking to 2008, I see many things on our plate. Department of Revenue, CDOT, Move Over Laws, etc. It's going to be a busy year.

As a member of this association, you have the power to be heard and the power to help. We currently have 150 members and yet, only a fraction of you make yourselves known.

So for 2008, I would like to extend an invitation to **all** members to let your voice be heard. If your chapter isn't holding meetings, call me and we'll get that corrected. If you

want to see what this association can do for our industry, get involved! We need your input and your support. Let's make 2008 the best year this association has ever had!

Have a safe, happy, and prosperous holiday season. Think snow, think money, but think!

~Cozy Bob

Board of Directors

President - Bob Swaney
Treasurer - Rob Mooney
Secretary - Shawn Hegarty
Board Member at Large
George Connolly
Board Member at Large
Vacant
C.S.P. Liaison
Major Meredith
Lobbyist - Chuck Ford

Chapter Presidents

Boulder Valley
Jim Schofield
Denver - Gary Garcia
Heavy Duty
Eddie Havener
High Plains
James Conour
Northern - Delbert West
Pikes Peak - Randy Clark
Southern - Larry Lievers
Southwest
Wendle McKnight
Western Slope
Bonnie McGhgy

Tow Show Committee

Coordinator - Connie Antill
Bob Swaney
Char Swaney
Rob Mooney
Stormy Mooney
Gary Garcia
John Connolly
Lynn Bernhardt
Shawn Hegarty

Special thanks goes out to Mid America Wrecker Sales, Inc. for sponsoring this edition of the T.R.P.C. Bulletin

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And The Winners Are...

The results of the **2008 TRPC Board** of Directors Election are in. And the winners are...

- Bob Swaney** - President
- Rob Mooney** - Treasurer
- Shawn Hegarty** - Secretary
- George Connolly** - Board Member at Large
- Terri Cloonan-Pelham** - Board Member at Large.

Chapter Results are...

- John Connolly** - Heavy Duty Chapter President.
- Gary Garcia** - Denver Chapter President
- Tony Thrap** - Denver Chapter Secretary

Thank you to all of the candidates who ran in this years elections!

*Congratulations to **Ace Towing Enterprise, Inc.** for taking Light Duty 2nd place in the Tow Times 2007 Shine 'n Star Contest.*

*Congratulations to **Bob Howell** with Bob's Towing & Repair in Estes Park, CO. for receiving one of the 2007 Top 10 *Wreckmaster* Awards.*

2008 Colorado Tow Show

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS: Please accept this personal invitation to attend the **2008 Colorado Tow Show, June 18-21, 2008** at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Golden, Colorado.

Planning for the show is running smoothly. We have sent out the "Early Bird" Vendor packets and are expecting a

good return.

Our #1 goal this year is to get **TOWERS** to the show!!!!

We have already booked many wonderful events to include well known speaker **DJ Harrington!** We have once again booked Colorado Casino Nights for our Friday Night activity which was a BIG hit last year!

Other activities include Buttons & Bows the Clowns, Saturday Evening Awards Banquet, and much much more!

We are currently seeking volunteers, so please call Connie at 303-789-2593 if you are interested.

We look forward to seeing you at the show!

Information Center

2007/2008 TRPC Membership Directories are available for purchase at \$3 for one and \$5 for two. Please call for yours today! 303-665-6775 - Char.

For Tow Show information, contact Connie Antill at 303-789-2593.

Take a look at our website: www.trpc-online.org

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE... please fill out the enclosed Museum membership application and send it in - they need our support!

AAA Moves Over National

Dear Towing Industry Friends and Colleagues (11-16-07):

I am pleased to announce that AAA formally launched a "Slow Down, Move Over" national public awareness campaign this morning during a press conference at the Homestead-Miami Speedway, leading up to Ford Championship Weekend of NASCAR's Nextel Cup Series. Media present at the event included USA Today, ESPN radio, NASCAR Scene and others. Both ABC and CBS networks have shown interest in covering this story.

Marshall Doney, Vice President of AAA Automotive, kicked off this morning's event and was joined by other members of the National Traffic Incident Management Coalition (NTIMC) speaking on behalf of law enforcement, fire fighters, emergency medical technicians, state highway workers and the Federal Highway Administration. Also participating and speaking at the event was David Ragan, driver of the Roush Fenway Racing #6 AAA Ford Fusion. David's father is a former tow truck driver who worked with AAA, so David was able to speak first-hand about the hazards his father faced on a daily basis while rendering aid to motorists on the highway. Working in conjunction with the NTIMC, AAA will be using David as our national spokes-

person for this initiative for the remainder of this year and throughout all of 2008.

AAA will be preparing an audio version of the public service announcement released today to begin being played on Sirius satellite radio in the near future.

AAA and TRAA will also be speaking and participating in a NTIMC press conference next Tuesday (11/20) announcing the National Unified Goal (NUG) for responding to traffic incidents. "Slow Down, Move Over" is one of the important elements contained within the NUG. Mike Scott will be speaking at this event representing TRAA, with Harriett Cooley also expected to be in attendance.

Increasing public awareness of move over laws is just one part of this equation. The other part is encouraging further passage and adoption of move over laws in states that don't currently have them, as well as ensuring that tow trucks and other roadside assistance vehicles are covered under existing move over laws. Many AAA clubs have already started working with their state legislators to ensure their states have move over laws that include tow trucks

and roadside assistance vehicles, and will continue to do so throughout the 2008 legislative season. In addition, AAA staff has already started teaching the importance of slowing down and moving over in the driver education classes we conduct with AAA members and the general public, as well as ensuring this topic is well covered within our driver education course materials that are used by AAA clubs and driving schools throughout the U.S.

You'll likely be hearing lots more from AAA and through the media on this topic later this year, and throughout all of 2008, but I wanted to share with you some of our work to date. Hopefully between all of our efforts we can reduce the tragic number of tower and roadside responder deaths.

Please drive carefully and don't forget to "Slow Down, Move Over" when you see a tow truck or other emergency vehicle rendering aid along the highway. Safe travels!

Doug McLendon
Director, Roadside Programs & Benefits ~ AAA

TRPC Website Renovation

In early November, the **TRPC website** was completely updated and renovated. You will see a new color scheme and a more user friendly navigation system.

Check it out at **www.trpc-online.org**

The forums are up and run-

ning and you must be a registered member to participate. Please login and register today! It's easy - type in any username that you would like and submit your information. Members will be approved weekly and a pass-code will be emailed to you for your first log in. It's that easy! This is a great way to commu-

nicate with your fellow Colorado towers.

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS: If you are interested in being the moderator of your Chapter's Board, please contact Connie @ 303-789-2593.

We hope to see more of you online!

*Check us out online...
www.trpc-online.org*

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“Every mile is two in winter”
~George Herbert

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www.trpc-online.org

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