

# The Flatbed Flash

Volume 1 Issue 1 2005



A newsletter published for the Owner Operators, Employees and Customers of Tri-Line Freight Systems LP's Flatbed Division

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## Happy New Year,

Thank you to everyone for all of your efforts in making Tri-Line's 2004 a success! 2005 will be another year full of challenge, but I am confident that we can continue to build on the foundation we have created over the past year, and keep making improvements to our company. Owner Operator recruitment and retention, fuel and insurance costs and safety and compliance will be our main areas of focus in the upcoming year.

We have made many changes to our Owner Operator package to ensure that we are able to retain and attract the best quality Owner Operators in the industry – Competitive pay rates, a Fuel Surcharge program, discounted tire pricing, increased home time, new trailer equipment, dedicated fleet managers, Safety Awards, Years of Service awards and annual contract reviews amongst other items help us achieve our goal. We had another great Holiday Party this year... don't miss the pictures inside! Items like these are what set us apart from our competition for Owner Operators. If you feel we have a good Owner Operator package please tell everyone... this is how we attract new Owner Operators to our organization. If you have problems with the package... tell me, that's how we can fix it.

Fuel and Insurance costs continue to be a challenge to the trucking industry. We have been aggressively pursuing rate increases from our Customer base, which allows us to provide a good rate level and Fuel Surcharge program to our Owner Operators as well as a very competitive insurance rate. To help our progress in this area we have added a sales representative. I would like to welcome Garnett Rowntree to the Tri-Line team in the position of Sales Manager. Garnett will be responsible for securing new business and developing existing Customers for both our Truckload and LTL operations.

The final area of focus for 2005 is our Safety and Compliance performance. With ever changing regulations in our operating environment and increased focus on truck safety, we must stay compliant to ensure our survival and success. These programs also affect our ability to secure affordable insurance rates. To help our efforts in this area Monte DeMarco has joined our team in the position of Safety Representative. Monte will work with Evelyn Crosbie to ensure our Owner Operators and Staff have the appropriate training and resources to operate in a safe and compliant manner. Welcome to Tri-Line Monte!

Again, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your contributions to our achievements in 2004 and I look forward to a great 2005.

Drive Safely,  
Brent

# New Faces...

## Deb Brown – Fleet Manager



I moved to Calgary from Saskatoon 3 summers ago. I love Calgary and think “it’s the place to live”. I’ve been in the trucking industry for the last 7 years and there is still a lot to learn. My experience not only covers dispatch, but I was also a driver. I enjoy working with the Tri-Line team. We are committed to our drivers and customers. The dedication and commitment we all have will only send our company forward. End result will produce “the best of the best”, and I am happy to be a part of that process.

## Monte DeMarco – Safety Rep



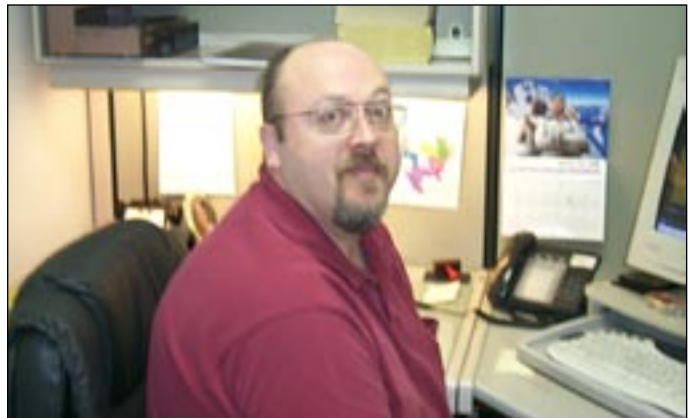
I was born in Lestock SK and grew up on a small farm in the Touchwood Hills area. I am 45 years old and married with three great kids; Justin 15, Melissa 16, Drew 19. In 1976 at the ripe old age of 17 I joined the service and spent 5 years in the Canadian Armed forces (Navy); this was a great experience giving me a better perspective on the world and myself. After my tour in the CAF I took a job as a carpenter for a couple of years when a friend introduced me to the trucking industry by allowing me to ride along on a trip from Toronto to Miami. Upon returning from the trip I acquired my class 1 and began my career as a truck driver and have remained in the industry ever since. For the last 6 years I have been working as a safety officer and have found this to be most rewarding, allowing me to still work with drivers and giving me more time to spend with my growing family. I enjoy camping, fishing, wildlife photography, guitar, restoring classic cars/motorcycles, and travel.

## Garnett Rowntree – Sales Manager



I’ve been working in the transportation industry since 2000. I started with CTI / Eagle Global Logistics as their Sales Rep. and have been working in the Ocean, Air Cargo, Rail and Truck industries for the past five years. Formerly, I was working for Manitoulin Logistics as their Operations Manager in Edmonton. I grew up in Turner Valley AB, which is just west of Calgary. I attended, Medicine Hat College, University of Lethbridge, and Athabasca University. I hold a B. Admin Marketing degree, and am completing a B. Admin Human Resources (Organization). Winter months you will find me Ski Patrolling in Fernie BC. In summer, I enjoy Mountain Biking or just hanging out in the good old hills.

## Ken Cameron – Canadian Sales



I started in the trucking industry in the early 80’s working with various construction and paving companies in the Sudbury area. I also worked in the courier industry for 7 years. In 1990 my wife and daughter and I decided to move to Calgary. Since being in Alberta I have been involved in the trucking industry as an owner operator / company driver/ dispatcher/ driver recruiter and terminal manager. I look forward to meeting everyone (eventually) and I am looking forward to making Tri-Line the best it can be.

**I LIKE THE DREAMS OF THE FUTURE  
BETTER THAN THE HISTORY OF THE PAST.**  
Thomas Jefferson

# Driver Profiles

## Carl Kriwez ~ Calgary



Originating from Ontario, Carl moved west to pursue employment. Before becoming a professional “truck driver”, Carl was a correctional officer living the life of the law.

Carl has now been with Tri-Line off and on for approximately 8.5 years, give or take. The things that he enjoys most about his job are the independence and the beautiful countryside that he gets to see. Carl also prides himself on the fact that he is to the point in his life where he can finally call himself a “dirty old truck driver”.

Carl is married and has 7 children.

## Victor Goleski ~ Edmonton



Victor is one of my favorite drivers. He is always a pleasure to deal with on the phone and in the offices. He has been in trucking for many years and has plenty of stories for any occasion. He is one of Edmonton’s US LTL Fleet.

His Dispatch Manager Terry Galenza will tell you how hard Victor runs.

Anyone who speaks with Victor knows what a dedicated and helpful driver he is. He is always raring to get “on the road again.” Victor has a wonderful wife named Lorna. He always has a warm greeting and a smile for everyone. He is one of the loyal “die hard” Tri-Line Drivers.

Submitted by Shannon Crook

## Leanne Veer ~ Regina



Leanne is based out of the Regina office and has been with Tri-Line off and on since 1999. It was in 2004 that she decided to become her own boss and buy her very own “big truck”, a Peterbilt.

While on her travels enjoying the beautiful scenery, Leanne is never without her two faithful companions, “Callie” and “Mouse”. “They are the best company that you can imagine while on the road” says Leanne.

Other things that Leanne enjoys doing are wood working and redecorating the interior of homes. Leanne enjoys her days at Tri-Line, giving those people who like to talk, someone to talk about!

## *Brake Safe*

**As part of our Safety program we will be installing brake stroke indicators on all Tri-Line equipment. These devices allow for an accurate and quick way of checking your brakes for the correct amount of travel. Tri-Line is offering these to all O/O’s who wish to have them installed on their units at no cost.**

## From the desk of Ev...

As you know, Years of Service awards were given out at the party November 27, 2004.

It was nice to see so many of you there. Forty-two awards were given to drivers ranging from 5 to 35 years. Office staff were also presented with awards from 5 to 15 years. Congratulations and thanks to everyone for sticking with Tri-Line through good times and bad.

Dave McAra got a "special" golf club presented to him; ask to see it when you're in Edmonton, maybe he'll get to use it at the next golf tournament.

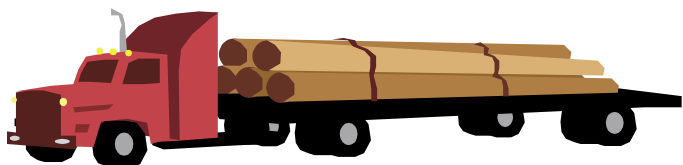
Changes are a constant in our business and once again there will be changes when crossing the border. "PAPS", line release, FAST and filer codes are just some of the things you will have to deal with when crossing the border.

FAST card applications can take anywhere from 3 to 6 months to process. If you have applied and not received a letter from Customs, I suggest you call the information number 800-842-7647 and see where your application is.

PAPS or Pre Arrival Processing System barcodes are available at all branches. There is a customs information sheet and a new book of Customs Brokers complete with "filer codes" available as well. If you haven't picked one up yet, please do so soon.

There are changes in the maintenance program this year. Inspections will be every 90 days. We have set up shops across the county that you can use. You will only pay for your annual inspection. Tri-Line will pay for the other 3 inspections. If you are in doubt about your next inspection date give me a call. Tractors and trailers should be inspected at the same time to avoid confusion.

The new log audit program started with the November logs. There were 5 tier 1 drivers entered in the first draw for \$100.00. Gord Hebden unit 312030 was the first \$100.00 winner.



I'd like to take this opportunity to say "Welcome Aboard" to Larry Kerr #310362, David Saunders #300402, Wilf Woloschuk #300818, Jeff McLean #310669, Darrell Keam #310448, John Bekus #310173, Greg Auston #300358 and Greg Bernard #310114. The quarterly draws for steering tires go to Harold Fenton for recruiting David Saunders and Phil Gawluck for recruiting Greg Auston. The next draw will take place the first week of July.

As you all are aware we also have a new body in the Safety Department. Monte DeMarco joined us in February. I hope you will all give Monte the support you have given me since my transfer from Vancouver. Please drop by for coffee and introduce yourself to him the next time you are in Calgary.

Spring thaw is just around the corner so watch out for the road restrictions. Above all please be careful, no load is worth an accident or injury.

Till the next newsletter, be safe, Ev.

### **Winners of the Tier 1 log book audits so far:**

**November – Gord Hebden, Unit 312030**

**December – Stephen Boulianne, Unit 310997**

**January – Thelma German, Unit 310423**

**February – Ken Bertrand, Unit 300557**

**March – Jeannie Leer, Unit 310960**

### **Congratulations for staying in the top Tier!!**

## Welcome New O/O's

*Larry Kerr - Lloydminster, AB*

*David Saunders - Calgary, AB*

*Wilf Woloschuk - Okotoks, AB*

*Jeff McLean - Winnipeg, MB*

*Darrell Keam - Medicine Hat, AB*

*John Bekus - Winnipeg, MB*

*Greg Auston - Moosejaw, SK*

*Greg Bernard - RedDeer, AB*

# Congratulations on your new Trailers

Tri-Line has been upgrading our flatbed trailers over the past year. We are very proud of our nine 2005 Wilson flatdecks. These Aluminum trailers are lighter, providing our customers with increased pay load capacity not to mention that they look great, and improve our image on the road.

**Keep an eye out for these drivers on your travels:**

Bob Terness # 310832

Darral Snyder # 310644

Randall Gilwich # 310225

Allan Hinz # 310659

Gordon Hebden # 312030

Carl Kriwez # 310177

Jim Davenport # 312023

Bill & Jeannie Leer # 310960

Larry & Thelma German # 310423

**We look forward to continuing to update our fleet  
with some of the best trailer equipment in the industry!**



# Christmas 2004

Once again it was a terrific weekend at the Radisson Hotel Calgary Airport.

Brent held his annual meetings with our Owner Operators on the Year in Review. We also had a very interesting and enlightening seminar on Saturday with the renowned Dan Baker from Bulverde, Texas on the People Side of Trucking. Dan focused on the challenges we all face on a daily basis in the Trucking industry. He also touched on the relationships between owner operators with the operations and admin staff and how easily frustrating things can get. We are defiantly headed in the right direction in this department, through the realization that we are all working together to become the Best in the Business.

After an eventful afternoon with Dan everyone enjoyed an evening of Dining and Dancing where Brent and Ev handed out the Years of Service awards, Congratulations to all of the recipients.

I would like to take this time to thank everyone for contributing to the "Toys for Tots". I couldn't believe the amount of thoughtfulness everyone extended; the amount of donations definitely surpassed my expectations. I think it's safe to say that this will be our annual charity for years to come. We dropped off the toys at Frank Sissons Silver Dollar Casino for the Calgary Fire Departments Toy drive; they were really surprised when I said we had a truck load, "literally". Like everyone else they all fought to take in the huge teddy bear that Dirk donated, and they made a thank you announcement on the Fan (a local sports radio station) to all of the Tri-Line staff.

**Thanks to all who joined us this year to celebrate the success of our company, we hope to see everyone here again next year!  
Have a safe summer, AMBER**



*Brent Ryan, Dave McAra, and Les Duke*



*Dave Stremick & Ken Cameron*



*Ev Crosbie and Mr. & Mrs. James Reavie*



*Lorrie Rink & Friend*



*Lee and Adam*



*YMCA*



*Chris, Andrew & Amber*



*Mr. & Mrs Wendell Friessen*



*Dirk, Gord, Ev & Bev*



*Ryan & Shelly*



*Ken, Gale, Maria & George*



*Sonny & Crystal Hinz*



*Don Brown*



*Mr. & Mrs. Dave Spaulding*

## Last Words.....

# Tri-Line Apparel

In January we started taking orders for clothing with the Tri-Line Logo. The response has been very good. Everyone that has ordered has been pleased with the quality and appearance of the clothes. I will be placing orders every couple of months for those of you who want to place an order. Prices are as follows:

Golf Shirts	\$19.25
Long Sleeved Denim Shirts	\$18.25
Long Sleeved Black Twill Shirts	\$29.50
Hooded Sweatshirts	\$29.75
Swoosh Style Hats	\$ 8.00
Leather Hats	\$18.50

Golf Shirts and Hooded Sweatshirts come in a variety of colors.

There is a catalogue available for jackets; prices are determined by the style and material of the jacket. There are catalogues in Calgary and Regina for those of you who may be interested.

Give me a call if you have any questions.

Thanks Ev

### **New Edmonton Address**

**“Big Horn Transport Yard”**

**2010 76<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

**Edmonton, AB**

**T6P 1N5**

## On April 8<sup>th</sup> Tri-Line lost a friend.

Curtis Hogemann was 37 years old. He drove for Tri-Line for a little over a year before joining our carriers division. He was enjoying the short hauls with a Super B trailer, giving him most weekends back home in Calgary with his 3 young children Cassandra, Angela, and Dustin.

Curtis will be sadly missed by everyone at Tri-Line and we wish his family our sincerest sympathy.



**A Trust Fund has been set up for Curtis's children. If you wish to donate to the fund please make the cheque payable to Tri-Line Freight Systems and put Curtis Trust on the note section of the cheque.**

## Safety Awards

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Safety Awards BBQ July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005**

Come one, come all.  
Entertainment and BBQ

Please let me know by **June 15<sup>th</sup>** if you think you will be able to attend.

*Looking forward to seeing you all there!!!*

*EV*